

Cable Committee
Minutes of the Meeting of
June 19, 2019

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Present: Michael Hill, Thomas Ghazil, Richard Moskal, Ellie Villano

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TOWN OF LUDLOW

Meeting called to order at 2 p.m. in the Selectmen's Conference Room

Mr. Hill gave an overview of the cable funding. LCTV is currently getting four percent of the cable funding. It was proposed and agreed on by the committee that on the third anniversary the funding would increase to 4.25%, on the fifth anniversary it would increase to 4.5%, and on the seventh anniversary it would increase to 4.75%. The committee also asked for \$265,000 in capital payments. John Maher, the representative from Charter, asked if the committee wanted to start at 5% and not receive any capital payments.

Mr. Hill shared some numbers with the committee based on the different proposals. He calculated what they are currently receiving, the committee's proposal, and Charter's proposal. Mr. Hill believes the 5% will give LCTV excess funding that is not needed. He also calculated 4.75% each year and believes that will be an appropriate amount of funding and will give the committee the opportunity to negotiate other areas of the contract.

The committee is looking for an INET drop at the new school, two high-definition channels, getting rid of a channel, and keeping the senior discount.

Ms. Villano **moved** that the Cable Committee recommend the following items for the licensing contract: 4.75 percent for each of the ten years of the contract, an INET drop extension for the Harris Brook Elementary School, two HD channels – 191 and 192, giving up the third channel, and continuing with the senior discount. Second by Mr. Ghazil. Motion passed 3-0.

The committee discussed the number of Charter subscribers. Mr. Hill says the number has remained steady since 2010.

Ms. Villano **moved** to adjourn. Second by Mr. Ghazil. Motion passed 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

