

Taghkanic Broadband Committee  
Minutes  
Thursday, November 1, 2018

The Taghkanic Broadband Committee met on Thursday, November 1, 2018. Present were members Arthur McGuire, Joyce Thompson and Susan Raymond. Also present was membership applicant Nancy Rutter.

Nancy had previously updated the Committee on additions to Gtel's website with regard to its fiber buildout. It now includes a useful article on the the work that is being done and which we would recommend it to all residents. There is also an interactive map where one can enter one's address and see the stage of work being done. Regrettably, all of Taghkanic is in the grey zone for "interest." But we expect that as the map is updated, it will show more progress.

Ryan Skoda's and Arthur's scheduled scheduled meeting for the previous Friday, October 26th had been postponed by Gtel but Arthur was able to communicated with Frank Boscarillo this week and learned the following:

1. Gtel has received is highway permits to bore under the Taconic State Parkway. The Highway Department is meeting with Gtel this day.
2. The first boring at County Route 8 should begin soon.
3. Gtel also has a permit to do pole replacement on State Route 82, which work should commence soon.
4. The company has all the materials it needs in its pole barn.
5. It continues to have telephone conferences weekly with the pole owners and twice weekly with the State Broadband Office.

Susan Raymond plans to contact Sandy Mathes, Gtel's outside public relations person to introduce us and let him know about the information we can post on our website.

Arthur intends to call Frank Boscarillo to try to obtain additional information prior to Monday's Town Board Meeting.

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Arthur did speak with Frank on Friday, November 2, and learned the following:

1. The TSP bore at Route 8 should start next week. It involves digging a large hole on either side of the Taconic and then drilling horizontally. The work should take about a week and that boring will enable them to hook up the equipment shed at the Gallatin highway department facility at Route 8 and Route 11.
2. That will be followed by two additional borings at Route 82 and Post Hill Road.
3. Gtel has received a \$225,000 grant to train and hire new employees who meet certain requirements. That will increase the number of installers and the project should start after the first quarter of next year.
4. Home installation has begun on Phase 1 close to Germantown. They have attached 100 residences and have 500 to go.

5. Phase 2 infrastructure is not expected to be completed by the end of the year. Other NYS companies are in the same situation.

6. Phase 3 has been staked, poles have been identified by GPS and the information is being sent to Engineering for design. They still expect infrastructure completion there by the end of 2019.

5. The company is increasing its communications on its own website and is expanding into social media. That project is overseen by Brittany Bohnsack Dufrense.

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We will continue to communicate with Gtel and monitor its progress.

Arthur McGuire  
Chair  
Taghkanic Broadband Committee