

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
THE STRAFFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
January 26, 2015

Members of the public body present: Rod Maclay, Chair, Brent Cadwell, John Freitag, Brian Johnson,

Other active participants: Lisa Kendall, Town Clerk, Nellie Pennington, Auditor

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

The Board continued its review of budget figures. Nellie went through the most recent data and explained financial statements and accounting procedures and how they related to this budget process. No final decisions were made.

John moved and Brian seconded that the Board adopt an Article presented by Andy Behrens regarding changing the structure of ECFiber. The Article is as follows:

“Shall the Town enter into a telecommunications union district to be known as East Central Vermont Telecommunications District, under the provisions of Subchapter 3, Chapter 121 of Title 24, Vermont Statutes Annotated?”

“If approved by the Vermont General Assembly, the proposed telecommunications district would take over the role of the existing Inter-Local Contract, of which the Town is currently a member. The new telecommunications district would not have the authority to levy taxes, and neither the Town of Strafford nor its taxpayers would be responsible for the district's financial obligations. The creation of this district will make it easier for ECFiber to obtain financing from private sources.”

The Town attorney Paul Gillies has reviewed the proposed Article and in his opinion “It is no greater risk than you've already assumed, and the paperwork—the agreement—reiterates the non-liability”. The Board voted all in favor of presenting the Article to the Town.

Next meeting:

Tuesday, January 27, at 10 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Freitag, Acting Recording Secretary

