



# **Granite Town Media**

## **Advisory Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes – Unapproved Draft**

28 October 2021

**Present:** Dave Alcox (Zoom), Josh Breault (Zoom), Wade Campbell (Zoom), Tim Finan, Chris Gentry, Chris Labonte, Tom Schmidt, Jon Teger, Nathalie Watson

**Absent:** Kevin Federico

**Guests:** Andy Kouropoulos, Mike Thornton

#### **Call to Order:**

Meeting called to order 6:02 PM as a hybrid Zoom meeting. The governor has rescinded COVID-19 emergency status pertaining to public meetings. All members present attended in person.

#### **BOS GTM HVAC meeting Oct 25th**

- The BoS discussed our AC problem at the high school TV studio where GTM equipment is located. The AC is old and replacement parts are not available. They unanimously approved GTM moving forward to contribute 50% of the replacement cost.

#### **MHS A/C repair/replacement**

- The entire AC unit was replaced with a 36k BTU Mitsubishi unit installed by [ENE systems of NH](#). Total cost came to \$8,475 of which GTM had previously promised to contribute \$4,000. Tom moved/ Chris L. 2<sup>nd</sup> to pay \$4000 AIF.
- It was noted GTM is not charged rental of the space or chargeback for electricity consumption.
- Jon asked about getting an extra remote in case it fails or gets lost. There are no controls in the unit itself. Chris will check.

#### **Manager report**

- Oval cam outage. Turned out during Pumpkin Festival lighting installation the Oval cam was accidentally moved to a different port on the Ethernet switch. The port did not supply power taking the oval cam offline.
- JLAB [Talk Go](#) microphones. Chris described the Talk Go microphones used with great success in the PD meeting room and Ambulance training room for Hybrid Zoom meetings. Their ability is amazing and cost is very low compared to other options.
- Chris will have his department overview with the BoS Nov 8<sup>th</sup>.
- The rollout of high speed fiber internet by Consolidated Communication has resulted in numerous questions about the franchise fee. Currently Milford has a

nonexclusive franchise agreement with Comcast to provide cable TV service to Milford. Over time the capability of Cable companies has expanded to include broadband, telephone and other services. These new services are outside the scope of the franchise agreement. The franchise fee is only collected on traditional TV services. So called OTT (Over the Top) TV delivered via the internet is outside the scope of the franchise agreement. In Milford Consolidated is partnering with several OTT providers to offer TV but customers have the choice of many OTT services. As such the Consolidated TV offering does not come under the control of the franchise agreement. For folks thinking about signing up for Consolidated TV while GTM is available on many streaming platforms we are not on Consolidated so to access GTM programs folks need to use one of the streaming platforms we are on.

- Chris reported the old school PC that has been giving us grief has been replaced with a more modern and powerful computer. It failed moments before a meeting. The computer is the responsibility of the school as it is used for academic programs during class times. Chris ordered equipment to fully integrate the school system with ours. The new school PC will support multi-camera live coverage resolving the single camera limitation of previous school meetings.
- This led to a discussion of contingency planning to establish procedures to deal with common technical problems. GTM has some in place but they need to be expanded and procedures and spare equipment kept handy to address the most common types of problems.
- We are still waiting for the digital audio mixer to replace the last item of analog gear in the BoS room. This is due to well-known chip and shipping issues. We do not yet have a hard delivery date.
- Mike Thornton mentioned that audio quality and volume varies greatly on Zoom depending on participant. Chris stated audio quality is highly dependent on the type of microphone. He strongly recommended using a dedicated microphone not the built in web-cam microphone.

## Videos

- Pumpkin Festival coverage – attendance was very high this year for a very successful festival. GTM conducted interviews with several non-profits and will be doing a promo video for next year.
- Covering girls' volleyball. Field trivia question about why lines are not painted white. Turns out white paint is in short supply so school had to revert to Plan B, use whatever color they could acquire.
- Both Soccer teams are in the playoffs. However the fields are in terrible shape due to all the rain. Playoffs moved to Souhegan as their field is in better shape.
- Covering the football playoffs.
- Jacques Memorial School Halloween parade. Students marched to the Oval will be covered live. Indoor parade held at Heron Pond School for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will be recorded.
- School fire drill video.
- Chris put out a plea for more videographers. He will be doing a presentation to Jon's video class in the next few days. Offer is open to anyone willing to learn.

**Policies and Procedures Discussion** – no update

**23 September 2021 Minutes**

Minutes approved as presented, Tom moved Nathalie 2<sup>nd</sup> AIF.

**Upcoming Meeting:** (November & December)

Combined November and December meeting will be December 9, 6:00 PM tentatively at the Pasta Loft

**Adjourn:**

Meeting adjourned 7:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Tom Schmidt