

**Cable Television Committee  
Minutes  
October 15, 2002**

In attendance were Jeff Winston, Peggy Fredrickson, Michael Daitzman, Marty Greenstein members, Mark Thompson the Town technology manager, and three good citizens: Peter Boers, Don Zeiter, and Bijan Sabet. All the visitors are prospective members and all have a professional background in data communications, Bijon being a venture capitalist.

Mike suggested that we invite critics of the Town to come onto Local Access to tell their stories.

The 1% surcharge for local access that is to be added to the cable bills is not yet being charged to subscribers. It may start January, and if it is, we may renegotiate to eliminate or reduce it.

Mark described the I-Net to us. This has been in previous minutes but basically it is a six-fiber system with two fibers for video. Each building has a modulator that allows it to transmit video onto these fibers for either internal (in the building) or external viewing.

We do not have a diagram of the I-Net and the Town has not yet been trained in its use. By contract these should happen.

The I-Net is on fibers 3 and 4. There are transceivers to convert the signals from fiber to wire and vice-versa.

The I-Net is in the form of a star network centered in the Flynn building.

Because of the I-Net, the town was able to replace a former communications system that had run over the fire alarm wiring. It was also able to eliminate a T1 line. The town runs the I-Net at 100 megabits.

However, the K-8 schools want to run the I-Net at a Gigabit rate. They hired the Netversant Company as consultants who proposed Gigabit switches made by Extreme Networks. The school is waiting upon these switches and so has not yet hooked up to the I-Net. The main switch will be in the Flynn building. This suggests that if the Town would like to add a Gigabit channel, they could simply add a module to the switch.

The schools get free cable modem access so they will get external Internet from that for some purposes. However, the teachers (etc.) will continue to have the use of a T1 line that they get from the MECH program.

The schools, because of the I-Net, will be eliminating the point to point T1 lines between their buildings.

The Lincoln-Sudbury High School has to date not been involved with the I-Net.

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The Water District will be tapping off the I-net. They are interested in GIS (Geographic Information System) technology (that will be brought in for the use of the public safety organizations).

The Town hopes to replace their telephone service with voice over Internet.

For Town Hall, the Town has budgeted \$18,000 for a video projector, screen, and white board. They are interested in having the output of the video projector be sent electronically to the video system. Problem is that we do not have the schematic for the video/audio system wiring for Town Hall. Jeff is asking Mark Croy to request this schematic from Kevin Long, who works for the company that installed the system.

A modulator at the Town Hall connects the video system to the I-Net. We paid for a switch, which should be at the Flynn Building, that would connect the video signal to the channel 8 upstream to the Maynard headend.

L-S has the use of channel 9.

We have not yet received cable modems for the library or the schools.

Bang Technologies installed the I-Net. According to Mark, they were impressed by it, particularly that we got six fibers.

General discussion ensued about use of the budget for next year. We expect it to be \$20,000 or more. Prominent were the installation of a video system in the library main meeting room and obtaining a digital recording/playback system for the local access station.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marty Greenstein