

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF THURMAN HELD JANUARY 25, 2012 AT THE TOWN HALL, 311 ATHOL ROAD, ATHOL NEW YORK, COMMENCING AT 6:30 P.M...

PRESENT: MRS. EVELYN WOOD, SUPERVISOR
MR. LEON GALUSHA, COUNCILMAN
MR. AL VASAK, COUNCILMAN
MRS. REBECCA HITCHCOCK, COUNCILWOMAN

ABSENT: MR. CHARLES BILLS, COUNCILMAN

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Fred Engelman, Ava Ashendorf and representatives from **Congressman Gibson's** office

Recording secretary: **Cynthia R. Hyde**, Town Clerk

This meeting was called to discuss internet.

Supervisor Wood said that Mr. Fred Engleman contacted Town of Thurman to discuss a possible solution to Thurman's internet problem using white space (or television airways). **Wood** called tonight's meeting to get this info out to the residents.

Supervisor Wood turned the floor over to **Mr. Fred Engleman**.

Mr. Engleman gave a presentation about white space and how it could work for Thurman. This idea is in the preliminary stages and may involve a trial.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Questions and comments along with answers were as follows...

Who will be responsible for maintenance?

Answer: The town would own the network.

How many antennas would be needed?

Answer: Don't know.

What is the speed?

Answer: 3 MB per second.

Would this enable cell service?

Answer: Yes with the right application.

Prices?

Answer: Around a \$600 set up fee and \$40.00 per month.

Is the speed the same in both directions?

Answer: It's not symmetrical.

Is anyone doing this?

Answer: Yes, search white space trials on the internet.

Will there be a limit to how much can be downloaded?

Answer: There is no reason for a limit.

Does this idea allow for streaming?

Answer: Yes.

What is the upload speed?

Answer: In the area of 384 K

What are the next steps?

Supervisor Wood explained that towns can own utilities and have special districts. **Wood** said that she was looking into funding and that the county planning department thought there may be a grant available.

Supervisor Wood stated that as things progress we'll have more meetings. **Wood** also said that anyone with questions, suggestions or thoughts should call her.

Mr. Engleman said that info is available at www.rainmaker-ns.com and connect Adirondacks.

Supervisor Wood thanked **Mr. Engleman** and introduced the representatives from Congressman Gibson's office.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business on a motion by **Councilman Vasak** seconded by **Councilman Galusha**, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12PM.

MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ WOOD, GALUSHA, VASAK, HITCHCOCK

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia R. Hyde, Town Clerk