

# Technology and High Speed Internet Access Committee

## June 18 Meeting Minutes

Committee Attendees: Stan, Yung, Van, Roger, Marc

Other Attendees: Richard Gacke Manager of Planning and Network Capacity for Century Link in Minnesota

### Status of Action Items

Approximately 30 replies have been received from the request for service issues that was included in the last Afton city news letter

Stan has prepared a spreadsheet listing the responses which includes addresses and issues reported.

We did not have time to review this spreadsheet. We will review it at the next meeting.

A preliminary review of the responses by Yung shows that nearly all are from those areas previously identified as having no service or are underserved.

### Progress with Vendors

We have been working with both Comcast and Century Link to identify the most cost affective method for providing

service to the unserved as well as identifying opportunities for upgrading service to the underserved.

### Century Link

Richard Gacke provided the following information on the cost of providing and upgrading service in Afton. In order to provide the following services a combination of fiber installation, equipment upgrades and new equipment would be required. Service speed is determined by the distance from the fiber connection point (DSLAM), the type of DSLAM technology, the number of copper connections to the residence, or if fiber has been run all the way to the residence.

Providing service to the unserved (those locations with no wired internet service) would be ~\$100k.

If the upgrades are done, service speeds in Afton would run from 256k to 80mb and all residents would have wired internet service.

Locations that would require equipment and the cost:

- 3001-Nybeck \$46k
- Neal/40th \$31k
- 40th/Trading Post \$29k

To do both the unserved and underserved (those locations with 256k up to 3mb service) would be ~\$200k

If these upgrades are done, service speeds in Afton would run from 3mb to 80mb and all residents would have wired internet service.

Locations that would require equipment and the cost:

Valley Creek Trail north of Nybeck \$45k

50th and Quadrant \$47k

In order to provide 10mb service to all Afton addresses the price tag would be ~\$500,000.

Century Link would have to add 14 new DSLAMs (termination/transition hardware to go from fiber to copper) in order to make this happen.

As a side note, Century Link is also going to be bringing out a TV service that would be provided over their infrastructure. However,

a minimum service speed to provide this service is 25mb. In order to move to this level of service in all locations, more upgrades would be necessary

### **Comcast**

Comcast has provided a quote for providing service to the unserved areas. This quote is significantly more than the costs

above provided by Century Link. The Comcast quote is higher because cable would have to be run to all unserved locations.

Century Link already has copper wire connections to all Afton residents to provide phone service. The DSL service that Century

Link provides uses the existing phone lines.

### **Funding for Service**

The state is providing money through grants in order to connect unserved locations. If we are able to secure a grant, the funding

split would be as follows - Century Link 25%, city 25%, state 50%. So as an example, Afton's share of the cost to connect all those that are unserved would be ~\$25000.

Century Link is willing to act as the lead for a grant application to the state.

This grant must be applied for by mid September. If we are going to try and move on this we must provide a letter of commitment to Century Link by mid August.

If we partner with Century Link, then they would write the grant. Which would relieve us of having to find someone to write the grant.

### **Action Items:**

Stan – contact Ron to try and get on the agenda for the next city council meeting

Next meeting July 16th at 7:00PM