

**Winchester Public Schools
Winchester, Massachusetts**

School Committee Meeting

**Regular Session 7:00 p.m.
Followed by
Executive Session**

**November 29, 2016
Parkhurst School**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Student Report
- IV. Reports and Discussion Items
 - A. Student Presentation: *Hyper-* Guru Ramanathan
 - B. Youth Risk Behavior Survey: Dot Butler and Jennifer Murphy
 - C. Report from Administrator of Counseling, Health, and Wellness: Carolyn Troy
 - D. Secondary Update: Jen Elineema
 - E. Master Plan Update: Chris Nixon
 - F. FY18 Budget Planning: Projected Enrollment
- V. Action Items
 - A. Vote to Accept: Monthly Financial Report
 - B. Vote to Approve: Budget Realignment
 - C. Vote to Approve: Vehicle Leasing
 - D. Vote to Approve: Out-of-Country Trip to Montreal and Quebec
 - E. Vote to Approve: Donation from Winchester Sports Foundation
 - F. Vote to Approve: Minutes of November 3, 2016
- VI. Chair Report
- VII. Superintendent Report
- VIII. Future Agenda Items
 - A. Elementary Student Presentations
 - B. FY18 Budget

- C. 2017-2018 District Calendar
- D. Report on Fees
- E. Athletics/Activities Update

IX. Next Meeting Date: December 13, 2016

X. Executive Session: Adjourn to executive session for purposes of discussing strategy related to non-union personnel salary adjustment (superintendent), since to do so in open session may be detrimental to bargaining.

XI. Adjournment



MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY

Charlestown Navy Yard
100 First Avenue, Building 39
Boston, MA 02129

Docket Item:
I-2:
December 5, 2016

Frederick A. Laskey
Executive Director

Telephone: (617) 242-6000
Fax: (617) 788-4899
TTY: (617) 788-4971

November 17, 2016

The Honorable Lance R. Grenzeback
Chair, Board of Selectmen
71 Mount Vernon Street
Winchester, MA 01890

Dear Selectmen Grenzeback:

As you know, our region is in the midst of a drought. Much of the state has been in Severe or Extreme Drought stage for the last few months. The rainfall we have had has not made much of a difference so far.

The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority has a separate Drought Management Plan from the rest of the state due to the sheer size of the Quabbin Reservoir, which has remained at normal levels up until now. However, on November 13, 2016, the Quabbin Reservoir dipped to the Below Normal status at 80% full.

There are no mandatory restrictions associated with "Below Normal" levels at Quabbin and there is still a long way to go before we get down to the Drought Warning stage at 65% full. Still, it is important that we remind our customers of the importance of water conservation. Over the next few weeks, we will be sending out Public Service Announcements and utilizing our website and social media to ask residents and businesses in our service area to save water wherever they can.

Our staff will be reaching out to your Water and DPW staff as well to remind them that our website has many tips on how to save water indoors and outdoors to share with your customers. In addition, we have indoor and outdoor conservation brochures, as well as low-flow replacement aerators for kitchen and bathroom faucets, and low-flow shower heads, which we provide to our member communities free of charge. If you would like any of these materials, please let me know.

We know that conservation works. Over the last 30 years, customers in the MWRA service area have reduced their average daily demand from 340 million gallons per day in 1980 to about 200 million gallons. It is important that these conservation efforts continue - especially during dry periods such as this.

Fortunately, we have been able to help some of our neighboring communities whose water supplies have been dramatically reduced. If we all make a conscious effort to conserve, we will all continue to have the water we need.

With any luck, the weather pattern will change and the rivers, streams and reservoirs will start to return to normal soon. In the meantime, I hope you will join us in getting this important message out to customers.

Sincerely,

Frederick A. Laskey
Frederick A. Laskey
Executive Director

RECEIVED
2016 NOV 21 AM 9:50
TOWN OF WINCHESTER
TOWN MANAGER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN



November 17, 2016

Docket Item:
I-3:
December 5, 2016

Board of Selectmen
Town of Winchester
71 Mount Vernon Street
Winchester, MA 01890

RE: Important Information on Price Changes

Dear Chairman and Members of the Board:

We are committed to delivering the entertainment and services our customers in your community rely on today, and the new experiences they will love down the road. As we continue to make improvements to our products and services, and as programmers charge more to carry their networks, our cost of doing business increases. As a result, starting December 20, 2016 prices for certain services and fees will be going up.

While some prices may have increased, we are always investing in technology to drive innovation. We are working hard to bring our customers great value every day and exciting new developments in the near future, including the following:

- The most TV shows and movies available On Demand
- Innovative X1 Voice Remote that makes searching for shows and movies easier
- Self-service options to save our customers time and adapt to their schedule
- Access to Netflix content on XFINITY X1
- Fastest, most reliable in-home WiFi
- Fastest Internet in America according to Speedtest.net
- More than 14 million WiFi hot spots nationwide

Customers will receive notice about these changes within their bill received after November 20, 2016. A copy of the notice is enclosed. If you have any questions about these changes, please feel free to contact me at 508-647-1418.

Sincerely,

Greg Franks

Greg Franks, Sr. Manager
Government Affairs

Enclosure - Customer Notice

NED_V3

RECEIVED
2016 NOV 18 AM 11: 10
TOWN OF WINCHESTER
TOWN MANAGER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN



IMPORTANT PRICE CHANGE INFORMATION FOR WINCHESTER, MA

November 2016

Dear XFINITY Customer,

We're committed to delivering the entertainment and services you rely on today—and the new experiences you'll love down the road.

As we continue to make improvements to our products and services, and as programmers charge more to carry their networks, our cost of doing business increases. As a result, prices for certain services and fees will be going up.

While some prices may have increased, we're always investing in technology to drive innovation. We're working hard to bring you great value every day and exciting new developments in the near future, including:

- Fastest, most reliable in-home WiFi
- Fastest Internet in America according to Speedtest.net
- More than 14 million hot spots nationwide
- The most TV shows and movies available On Demand
- Innovative X1 Voice Remote that makes searching for shows and movies easier
- Self-service options to save you time and adapt to your schedule
- And soon, access to Netflix content on XFINITY X1

We're excited to bring you even more, and we can't wait for you to see what 2017 has in store for the future of awesome.

Thank you for choosing to be our customer.

Sincerely,



Tracy Pitcher
Regional Senior Vice President

For more information about all the taxes, fees, and surcharges on your bill, go to www.xfinity.com/pricechanges.

SA9GF01A



November 14, 2016

Board of Selectmen
Town of Winchester
71 Mount Vernon Street
Winchester, MA 01890

Re: Important Information about Comcast Set-top Boxes

Dear Chairman and Members of the Board:

As part of our continuing effort to keep you informed, I wanted to let you know about an upcoming change affecting certain models of Comcast's set-top boxes. Beginning January 24, 2017 some customers in your community will be asked to upgrade their set-top boxes so that they are compatible with our new enhanced HD service. With this system enhancement, customers will enjoy improved HD picture quality and be able to record and store more shows on their DVR.

To continue to view all of their current favorite HD channels and enjoy these upcoming improvements, some customers will need to upgrade their set-top boxes. We have included instructions for upgrading their cable boxes in our notification to customers. These instructions are:

"To see which set-top boxes need to be replaced, go to channel 1995 on each of your TVs and follow the on-screen instructions. You can order a new box right from your TV and have it shipped to your home."

While we know replacing equipment can be inconvenient for customers, this change will pave the way for more enhanced services.

We are informing our customers of this upcoming change through letters to their homes and set-top box messaging. Sample notifications are attached for your reference. We will continue to notify customers on an ongoing basis about this change, including any deadlines for action, and will keep you informed as well.

If you have any questions, please visit xfinity.com/HDenhanced or contact me at 508-647-1418.

Sincerely,

Greg Franks

Greg Franks, Sr. Manager
Government Affairs

RECEIVED
2016 NOV 21 AM 9:49
TOWN OF WINCHESTER
TOWN MANAGER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Sample - Notice #1

Equipment Update



<Sam A Sample>
<123 Main Street>
<XXXXX>
<Anytown, US 12345-6789>

Update your TV box — on us.

Dear Sam Sample,

We've noticed you have an older TV box and we'd like to give you a new one — on us.

You'll need the latest technology to enjoy an unmatched entertainment experience. Older devices like yours can't keep up with new features and will eventually lose HD channels.

That's why we've made it easy to update equipment so you can enjoy enhanced HD and, for those of you with DVR, up to 8x the storage. Here's how:

- 1> Tune to channel 1995 on each TV in your home.
- 2> Follow the simple instructions on the screen to order your replacement.
- 3> Set up and activate your new equipment.

With this update, you'll get XFINITY X1 — a whole new way to experience TV throughout your home. X1 delivers the simplest, fastest and most complete way to enjoy all your entertainment on all your screens. It even lets you change channels with your voice.

Questions? Find answers at xfinity.com/tradeup or call 1-800-XFINITY and mention "Equipment Update."

Thank you for choosing XFINITY. Ensuring that you get the most from your TV service is part of our commitment to improving your overall experience.

Sincerely,

Tracy L. Pitcher
Senior Vice President - Greater Boston Region

Replace and activate your new TV box by
XX/XX to keep your favorite HD channels.



Sample - Notice #2

Equipment Update



<Sam A Sample>
<123 Main Street>
<XXXXX>
<Anytown, US 12345-6789>

Update your TV box — on us.

Dear Sam Sample,

Time is running out to replace your TV box. To keep watching your favorite HD channels, trade up to a newer box by XX/XX — on us.

We've made it easy to update equipment so you can enjoy enhanced HD and, for those of you with DVR, up to 8x the storage. Here's how:

- 1> Tune to channel 1995 on each TV in your home.
- 2> Follow the simple instructions on the screen to order your replacement.
- 3> Set up and activate your new equipment.

With this update, you'll get XFINITY X1 — a whole new way to experience TV throughout your home. X1 delivers the simplest, fastest and most complete way to enjoy all your entertainment on all your screens. It even lets you change channels with your voice.

Questions? Find answers at xfinity.com/tradeup or call 1-800-XFINITY and mention "Equipment Update."

Thank you for choosing XFINITY. Ensuring that you get the most from your TV service is part of our commitment to improving your overall experience.

Sincerely,

Tracy L. Pitcher
Senior Vice President - Greater Boston Region

**Replace and activate your new TV box by
XX/XX to avoid losing your HD channels.**



Sample - Notice #3

Equipment Update

xfinity

Update your TV box by XX/XX to avoid losing your HD channels. It's on us.

We've been trying to reach you about replacing your TV box. Older devices like yours can't keep up with new features and will lose HD channels. So we'd like to give you a new one.

We've made it easy to update your equipment so you can enjoy enhanced HD and, for those of you with DVR, up to 8x the storage. Here's how:

- 1> Tune to channel 1995 on each TV in your home.
- 2> Follow the simple instructions on the screen to order your replacement.
- 3> Set up and activate your new equipment.

With this update, you'll get XFINITY X1 — a whole new way to experience TV throughout your home. X1 delivers the simplest, fastest and most complete way to enjoy all your entertainment on all your screens. It even lets you change channels with your voice.

Questions? Find answers at xfinity.com/tradeup or call 1-800-XFINITY and mention "Equipment Update."

Sincerely,

Tracy L. Pitcher
Senior Vice President - Greater Boston Region

**Replace and activate your new TV box by
XX/XX to avoid losing your HD channels.**

COMCAST

Docket Item:
I - 4:
December 5, 2016

Mawn, Patti

From: Jeff Pardo <jeffpardo@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 2:02 PM
To: Town Manager
Subject: Fwd: Concerns for EFSB15-04 (Winchester)

Mr. Howard -

I hope all is well on your side and you had a wonderful Thanksgiving!

I wanted to forward along my latest letter that I sent to Mr Shea at the siting board. While I know the EMF argument was one we could never make as a town, something continued to not sit well with me which is why I wrote this latest piece.

Thank you very much for your continued support on this issue.

- Jeff Pardo

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jeff Pardo <jeffpardo@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Nov 29, 2016 at 12:54 PM
Subject: Concerns for EFSB15-04 (Winchester)
To: robert.j.shea@state.ma.us

Mr. Shea -

As you get closer to making your final decision on the Woburn to Wakefield 345kV powerline project I want to offer an additional perspective of that of a Winchester resident. While I am sure that you feel like this has been a long road to get to this point for you and your team, I hope you understand just how long it has felt from our side. The vast majority of homes that will be affected by the proposed powerline have young children. I think we can both agree that there is nothing that comes close in comparison to a parent's concern for the health and wellbeing of their children. I am unsure if you are a parent yourself but I imagine there are young people you care for and could at the very least put yourself in our shoes. While the different towns have made extremely good arguments as to why the proposed project is flawed (logistics, burden, access to important town services, impeding cops and ambulances access to residents, etc) I wanted to one last time focus on the potential health hazard we are subjecting our children to. In Donald L. Haes testimony on behalf of Winchester, he states that Eversource's calculations on the EMF ranges were flawed and went on to do his own calculations (which I do not believe were challenged by Eversource). At the corner of Washington and Cross, where the line makes a full 90 degree turn, Mr Haes calculated that the EMF's above the line will go as high as 250 milligauss. To put that into perspective I will (once again) include a quote from the World Health Organization:

"Childhood leukemia is a comparatively rare disease with a total annual number of new cases estimated to be 49,000 worldwide in 2000. Average magnetic field exposures above 3mg in homes are rare: it is estimated that only between 1% and 4% of children

live in such conditions. If the association between magnetic fields and childhood leukemia is causal, the number of cases worldwide that might be attributable to magnetic field exposure is estimated to range from 100 to 2400 cases per year, based on values for the year 2000, representing 0.2 to 4.95% of the total incidence for that year." (World Health Organization)

There is no doubt that I have a vested interest in that corner since that is where I decided to buy my home for my growing family only 2.5 years ago. I am sure there is no way for you to know that there is a 3 year-old and 1 year-old that sleep in the bedroom directly off of that corner. How would you feel if you found out that your children will be exposed to EMF levels over 80 times stronger than what the World Health Organization says is extremely rare, and only between 1-4% of children live in such conditions.

I am sure you and your team are decent people and therefore the only way to justify this type of action is to rely on the fact that **maybe** the science is wrong, or **maybe** the "experts" that Eversource relies on are right when they say there are no dangers. It is the latter part of that argument I would like to focus on for the remainder of this letter.

Peter Valberg has had a long career fighting on behalf of whoever will pay him the most money. As one reporter put it "*People like Valberg and Goodman serve the logic of a system, as does their employer Gradient. In order to earn their salaries and advance their careers, they blithely tell lies at the expense of the health and lives of others. It is difficult to fathom what goes on inside such a person. Malice seems unlikely. "Nothing" might be closer to the truth.*" Now obviously Peter Valberg does work outside of Eversource so I decided to look into it. Below are some of the cases he has been hired as an expert in:

- First Energy vs. the family of a 2 year old who went permanently bald following exposure to a toxic "black rain" that discharged from its coal fired electric plant (article [here](#))
- WE Energies Oak Creek Power Plant vs. residents within a 2 mile radius of the plant where excessive amounts of coal-like particles were found in the homes leading to a number of diseases including cancer, heart disease, respiratory diseases and strokes (article [here](#)).
- Phillip Morris vs. 200K class action group claiming that the tobacco company misled them to believing that light cigarettes are safer than their full flavored counterparts, causing (shockingly) more cancer (article [here](#)).
- Asbestos Glove company vs. Pam Collins who developed mesothelioma after 14 years working in a GE factory wearing the asbestos gloves (article [here](#)).

I can only assume you already know which side Peter Valberg was on in each of these cases, without even reading the terribly sad articles about the victims in these cases. Two things seem constant when Peter Valberg is involved in a case:

1. A large power/chemical company is paying him
2. Someone has developed a cancer or other rare disease

So here we are, residents with young children arguing against a power company laying a high voltage powerline outside their children's bedrooms. Peter Valberg has been hired, which checks off the first constant. It is now up to you to do the right thing and prevent the second from coming true. Your name will forever be the last to sign on the dotted line letting this happen.

Jeff Pardo
Winchester Resident