

November 3, 2017

RE: Update on Town Hall and Other Projects in the Town of Milton

Dear Town Residents,

This summer the town put the construction of the new town hall project on hold to evaluate new projects and opportunities for the Township. We are writing this letter to update you on those projects as well as to invite you to a December 13, 2017 public meeting where you can participate in deciding which projects the town will pursue in 2018. The following are the projects the town is currently evaluating:

1. We are working with the city of Fountain City and the townships of Buffalo and Cross to build a new fire station in Fountain City at the site of the old swimming pool. The estimated cost for this project is between \$750,000 and \$800,000 of which the town will be responsible for contributing 25% of the overall cost of the building. We view this as an essential project and are planning to allocate an estimated \$200,000 towards it.

A new opportunity that this project has created for the town is to use the building's community room for our monthly town meetings and voting. The town would like your input as to whether you think it is a good idea to use the community room in the new fire station for our monthly meetings and voting place as an alternative to building a new town hall. This may possibly include an additional onetime cost above the 25% that we are paying for the project.

2. Move forward with the original plan of building a new town hall on the five acres of land the town purchased on Highway 88. The estimated cost to complete this project is between \$400,000 and \$500,000 after we construct a building, road, and parking lot. Funding for this project would come from the initial CapX impact fee of which we have \$400,000 remaining after allocating \$200,000 towards the fire station. We will not have enough funding for the high-speed Internet project below if we choose to do this project.
3. Partner with the Cochrane Co-op Telephone to invest in the build out of high speed Internet, cable television, and phone service for all-town residents. The total estimated cost for the project is \$2.4 million and could be completed next year. Funding for this project would come from investments by Cochrane Co-Op, Town of Milton, and broadband grants available through the state. Additional details about this project along with an important survey are included with this letter. We will not have enough funding to build a new town hall if we choose to do this project.
4. Continue to invest our reserves in CD accounts until a new opportunity comes along. This would mean not building a new town hall or investing in the high-speed Internet project.

Please join us at 7:00 PM on December 13, 2017 at the Town Hall for a public meeting to discuss these options and provide input on how we should move forward in 2018. If you are unable to attend the public meeting, we encourage you to email, write a letter, or call to communicate your ideas for these projects.

Bob Platteter, Chairperson  
Jane Baures, Treasurer

Eugene Bagniewski, Supervisor

Ben Adank, Supervisor  
Kalene Engel, Clerk

November 3, 2017

RE: High Speed Internet Project Update and Survey Needed by November 17

Dear Town Residents,

The high-speed Internet project would be a partnership with Cochrane Co-Op in which they would run high speed fiber optic cables to all homes in the township that would enable up to 1GB of high speed Internet, Cable Television, and possibly phone service. The estimated cost for this project is \$2.4 million with an estimated cost to the town of \$800,000. The remaining \$1.6 million for the project would be funded through an \$800,000 investment by Cochrane Co-Op and \$800,000 in grant awards from the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

There is no guarantee that we will be awarded any grant funds from the state for this project, but to apply, the Town and Cochrane Co-Op would have to first agree that if funding is awarded that we will move the project forward as described in this letter. There are many factors the PCS uses to determine grant awards, and over the past several months the Town of Milton and Cochrane Co-Op have been taking steps to ensure that we have the best possible chance of securing funds.

The Town would fund its \$800,000 investment by allocating \$400,000 from the CapX account that we currently have plus budgeting \$40,000 per year of the annual CapX stipend that we receive in the spring for the next 10 years. The total annual CapX stipend the Town receives annually is about \$73,000.

The project would be completed in two phases from a funding standpoint. Phase 1 of the project would cost approximately \$1.2 Million and provide service to about 210 homes in the township. Phase 2 would cover the remaining 90 homes in the town and would cost an additional \$1.2 million. Both phases of the project could be completed in calendar year 2018. The Town would have to apply for both grants to secure the total \$800,000 in funding for the project.

On the back page of this letter you will find a survey that will help the Town gauge the overall service level of Internet accessibility in the township. Please complete this survey and use the pre-paid postage envelope to mail back to Cochrane Co-Op. It is very important that we receive a high response rate for this survey to accurately assess the level of Internet service in our community.

**Please mail completed surveys to Cochrane Co-Op by November 17.** Survey results will be shared at the December 13 public hearing.

Bob Platteter, Chairperson  
Jane Baures, Treasurer

Eugene Bagniewski, Supervisor

Ben Adank, Supervisor  
Kalene Engel, Clerk

**Town of Milton  
Broadband Survey**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

1. Who provides your home INTERNET service? Please check a box below  
 Centurylink  Cellular  Other (HBC Air/Dish/Direct)  I do not have Internet Service

2. If you do not have wired INTERNET service at home, please explain why?  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. If you have wired home INTERNET service, how would you rate the quality of service?  
Using the scale of 1 to 10, 1 being poor and 10 being terrific \_\_\_\_\_ rating  
Comments on why \_\_\_\_\_

4. If you have INTERNET service, please tell us how fast it is. TO DO THIS:  
a. connect to the internet  
b. open an internet browser  
c. go to speedtest.airstreamcomm.net  
d. click the GO button to run the test  
e. After the test runs, it will give you 4 numbers. Please record those numbers below.

\_\_\_\_\_ Ping \_\_\_\_\_ Download Speed  
\_\_\_\_\_ Jitter \_\_\_\_\_ Upload Speed

OR \_\_\_\_\_ Mark here if your INTERNET was too slow for the speed test to run

5. Who provides your home PHONE service? Please check a box below  
 Centurylink  Verizon  Do NOT have wired PHONE service

6. If you do NOT have wired PHONE service, please explain why?  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. If you have wired PHONE service, how would you rate the quality of service?  
Using the scale of 1 to 10, 1 being poor and 10 being terrific \_\_\_\_\_ rating  
Comments on why \_\_\_\_\_

8. On a scale of 1 to 10, 1 being little of importance and 10 being I'd be lost without it  
Please rate the importance of a wired phone line in your home? \_\_\_\_\_ rating  
Comments on why \_\_\_\_\_

9. If fiber optic high speed internet was available would you sign up for it? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_