

Minutes of the Meeting
Joint Technology Advisory Committee
February 8, 2001

Members Present: Dore' Hunter, Terry Lindgren, Jim Chace, Frank Widmayer, Sharon Summers, Mark Hald, Steve Barrett, Don Johnson, John Murray and Greg Hall.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by co-chairman Terry Lindgren.

Mark Bramhall was unable to attend this meeting, and his report will be given at the next meeting, March 8, 2001.

Mark Hald reported on Pentamation software. Don Johnson relayed his conversation with Don Appleton, Pentamation's President, concerning the tax software. This conversation was provoked by information received from an outside source that Pentamation is looking for a tax collection software partner, and that they would not seek additional clients for their tax software. Don Appleton stated that Pentamation would continue to support existing tax customers. Mark Hald reported on conversation with the MIS Director in the Town of Lincoln. There is concern there with Pentamation's tax software decision, and the cost of upgrading to the new Open Series software. The municipal IT organization, Mass. Governmental Information Systems Assoc (MGISA), was briefly discussed. There was also discussion that a single vendor solution may not be the best thing.

The Committee asked if Staff could begin looking into alternatives to our financial software situation.

Mark Hald reported that the Internet should be up and running at town offices by next week. He also stated that E-mail implementation would be contracted out, and not handled by MEC. The Committee requested that Sam Schwartz review the security of both the school and town networks.

Jim Chace, Greg Hall, Jack Reetz and Mark Hald met on February 7 to determine the tasks and create a timeline for the cable contract implementation. AT&T will present their tasks at next week's (2/19) meeting, and the negotiation on tasks will begin. It was determined that head end equipment is included in the contract, and that all connectivity to the fiber network is to come from the Technology Fund. Mark Hald is in charge of implementing the schedules and keeping AT&T on track. It was agreed that AT&T representatives would be invited to a future JTAC meeting after the above schedules are set. Jim Chace is to determine the channels to be utilized for educational purposes.

(Continued on reverse...)

Annual Town Meeting: The Selectmen are meeting next week to review the town's budget. The technology issues will be reviewed at that meeting (domain controller, workstations and security system). JTAC members were invited to visit the current police station, as an article will come before the town to build a new public safety building with central dispatch. Jim Chace reported that there is no technology article for the regional schools, and that technology will be included in the health, safety and maintenance article for the local schools.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 8 at 7:30 p.m. on the High School Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Summers

Amended May 2001

Amended November 2001

Accepted _____