

Voted that the Town adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Brookline Interactive Group (BIG) provides an invaluable service to the Town;  
and

WHEREAS, the transition of subscribers from traditional cable to broadband leads to a shift in the funding of public access stations; and

WHEREAS, the resources of Brookline Interactive Group could be further utilized in the Town to provide direction for information access generally;

WHEREAS, the licensing authority of the Town, for example over grants of location and the cable franchise, can be used to acquire resources for the public at low cost;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Select Board establish a committee, including representatives from BIG and members of the public, to aid in identifying potential stable funding mechanisms for BIG, reexamine the ways that grant-of-location and cable licensing could provide benefit to the Town and opportunities for future benefit, including but not limited to the uses made of Relief Funds, subscriber fees, equipment/facilities funds, dark fiber, and side agreements such as for internet access, and make a report to the Town by May 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town explore further partnerships with the Brookline Interactive Group to utilize its resources and expertise for public benefit, for example community broadband or computer labs and internet access to underserved populations;