

Chebeague Island Broadband

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History

June 04, 2024

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**The Town of Chebeague Island
has received
Broadband Internet Grant funding
and the Town Meeting approved
the operational contracts!**

We hope for construction to start in early 2024 with completion by July, 2024, if not sooner!

**The Town of Chebeague Island
Broadband Committee**

We meet via ZOOM almost every Monday at 05:00pm

Meeting ID is 326 962 753

Password is 175989

See Committee Members on [Overview & Links](#)

Broadband Internet for All - Mission Statement

The Town of Chebeague Island Broadband Committee advocates for fast, flexible, affordable and reliable internet
to incentivize business, support schools, advance the quality of healthcare, connect homes
and facilitate long term education and socialization of our rural island.

On April 27, 2022, the ConnectMaine Authority voted to approve our grant request for \$800,000 in funding to be matched by as much as \$975,000 as authorized by Town Meeting in December, 2021, by a vote of 84 in favor to 18 opposed.

Of the eight (8) awards made out of 23 applying towns or groups of towns, Chebeague was #1.

Here's the official notification

At the June 11, 2022 Town Meeting with about 70 resident citizens in attendance, the broadband contracts passed easily, all in favor, save 7 opposed to the Construction Contract and 4 opposed to the Franchise Contract.

That is 90% and 94%, respectively, in favor of the broadband contracts.

Thus, the citizens of Chebeague Island voted overwhelmingly to make broadband service available to every home on the Island with **no increase in property taxes** as a result.

On s February 23, 2023 the ConnectMaine Authority increased the grant funding by \$170,00 to \$970,000 in recognition of a switch from State to Federal funding and several unanticipated expenses.

This website seeks to inform our voters about what true broadband internet is and how it can enrich our community.

Our gratitude goes out to the *The [Blue Hill] Peninsula Utility for Broadband* for allowing us to liberally borrow from their website.

The documentation of our efforts to date may be found in the following links:

Town of Chebeague Island Broadband Committee: 2021- 2024
<u>Report of the Broadband Committee</u>
<u>Report of the Broadband Committee Appendix</u>

<u>Broadband FAQs</u>
<u>Broadband FAQs – Continued</u>
Report to the Public (10/4/2021) <u>Video</u> <u>Audio</u>
<u>Public-Private Comparison Sheet</u>
<u>Warrant Article</u>
<u>Portland Press Herald Nemitz Article</u> <u>10/24/2020</u>
<u>Broadband Discussion Public Zoom</u> <u>Meeting - November 13, 2021</u>
<u>Broadband Flyer mailed 11/16/21</u>

Letter to Chebeague from Adam Kagan

