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October 10, 2014

ABIGALE E. CHESLEY  
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ACHESLEY@DEVINEMILLIMET.COM**VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL  
ELECTRONIC MAIL**Debra Howland, Executive Director &  
Secretary  
NH Public Utilities Commission  
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301Re: DT 14-240; Dixville Telephone Company – Petition for Approval to Discontinue  
Operations

Dear Ms. Howland:

Enclosed for inclusion in the record in the above-referenced proceeding is an Affidavit of  
Publication pursuant to the Order of Notice dated September 26, 2014.

Very truly yours,

  
Abigale E. Chesley  
Legal Assistant

HNM:aec

Enclosure

cc: Electronic Service List

The News and Sentinel, Inc.  
6 Bridge Street, PO Box 39  
Colebrook, NH 03576  
(603) 237-5501

**Affidavit of Publication**

To: Devine, Millimet & Branch  
111 Amherst St  
Manchester, NH 03101

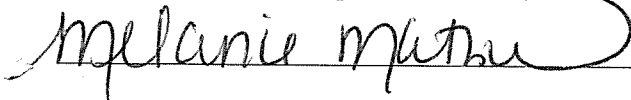
Re: Legal notice #46437

State of NH       }  
                              } SS:  
County of Coos }

I, Eldonna L. Brooks, being duly sworn,  
depose and say: that I am the Office Manager  
of The News & Sentinel, a weekly newspaper of  
general circulation published in Colebrook,  
County of Coos, State of NH; and that a  
notice, of which the annexed is a printed  
copy, was duly published in The News &  
Sentinel once on 10/01/14.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Eldonna L. Brooks

Sworn to before me this 1st day of October, 2014

  
\_\_\_\_\_

**MELANIE MATHIEU, Notary Public**  
My Commission Expires August 14, 2018

# THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DT 14-240

## DIXVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY

### Petition for Approval to Discontinue Operations

#### ORDER OF NOTICE

On September 22, 2014, Dixville Telephone Company (Dixville) filed a Petition For Approval to Discontinue Operations pursuant to RSA 374:28, seeking Commission authorization to permanently discontinue its local telephone operations in New Hampshire.

In its petition, Dixville represented that it serves a small area of Northern New Hampshire, providing local exchange service, intrastate toll, exchange access, and other telecommunications services to portions of the Dixville township area of Coos County, primarily the former Balsams Grand Resort Hotel. Dixville asserted that it currently bills for only four access lines in service, and also provides wholesale special access service to one telecommunications carrier. According to the petition, in the absence of further development of the Balsams resort, it is very unlikely that Dixville's customer base will expand in the near future, and it is reasonably certain that any future development in its service area would require telecommunications services and infrastructure that it does not provide and lacks the financial resources to construct and operate.

In support of its request for authority to discontinue operations in its service area, Dixville maintained that, despite receiving substantial subsidies from the federal Universal Service Fund and pooled interstate access settlements from the National Exchange Carrier Association, Dixville loses money and has become a drain on the resources of its owners. As Dixville is indirectly owned by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, its continued operations result in a financial drain on the public at large and the charitable organization that owns it. Dixville further asserted that affordable alternatives to its local service exist that are comparable to, or exceed, the quality of service it currently provides or is likely to be able to provide in the foreseeable future. Dixville's petition concluded that the balance of interests favors a determination that the public good does not require further continuance of its service.

Dixville's petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at <http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2014/14-240.html>.

Dixville's filing raises, *inter alia*, issues related to telephone utility service discontinuance under RSA 374:28 and RSA 374:22-p, VIII (a), and whether the public good requires continuance of Dixville's service or whether the public good is adversely affected by discontinuance of such service. Each participant has the right to have an attorney at the participant's expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

**ORDERED**, that a prehearing conference, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.15, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on October 28, 2014 at 1:30 p.m., at which each party will provide a preliminary statement of its position with regard to the petition and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.15; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that, immediately following the prehearing conference, Dixville, the Staff of the Commission, and any intervenors hold a technical session to review the petition and allow Dixville to provide any amendments or updates to its filing; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, Dixville shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than October 3, 2014, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before October 24, 2014; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to Dixville on or before October 24, 2014, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities, or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32, I (b); and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before October 28, 2014.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-sixth day of September, 2014.

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.

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## Groveton Homecoming Parade, Bonfire & Games This Weekend

The Groveton High School Booster Club is gearing up for another successful and highly attended Homecoming Weekend, October 3-4.

It all starts with the annual parade of floats, athletes, students, local fire and police and EMS departments, stepping off at 7 p.m. on Friday, October 3. The theme this year for Homecoming is "Sweet Treats," and there are some really interesting floats being created.

Following the parade, there will be many activities at the field across from the high school. Free hot dogs and drinks, the coronation of royalty, DJ John Jaworowski, a bonfire, the announcement of raffle prize winners and new this year, a food drive for local food pantries.

Those attending the festivities are encouraged to bring a nonperishable food item to donate to their "sweetest" class. There is a friendly competition going on between grades 6-12 on who can collect the most food. Grades 7-12 are also selling raffle tickets for numerous locally donated gifts. The tickets cost \$1 each and the royalty competition is based on ticket sales, so people can buy chances to support their "sweetest" class for this effort, as well.

The food drive will be an added event for future years, as the GHS Booster Club feels that community involvement and support are very important to area schools and wants to extend its support beyond the athletes. The club believes it is important for students and athletes to understand that their towns are proud of them and that they should all give back when they can to help others.

Homecoming Weekend in Groveton continues on Saturday, October 4, with soccer games against the Colebrook Mohawks. The middle school boys and girls play at 9 a.m.; the varsity girls play at 11 a.m.; the varsity boys play at 1 p.m.; and the elementary boys and girls cap the day at 3 p.m.

The GHS Booster Club will have its snack shack open, offering their famous homemade fries, burgers and dogs, and beverages. All are invited to come out and support these local students, athletes and GHS Booster Club, buy a raffle ticket, bring a nonperishable food item or donate some time.

## ServSafe Program to Be Offered in Lancaster, on October 23

UNH Cooperative Extension will offer a ServSafe program at its office in Lancaster on Thursday, October 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

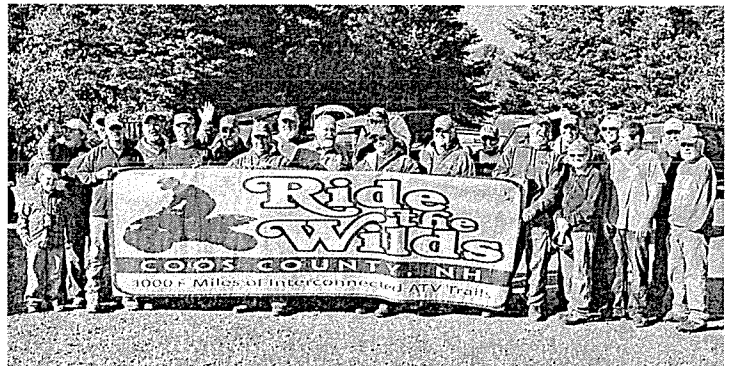
ServSafe is a one-day food safety program, designed to share the latest science-based information on food safety and best practices in the industry. This in-depth training is critical for owners, food managers and food handlers who work in restaurants, schools, hospitals, nursing homes, or specialty food producers who manage their own small businesses.

"We are being constantly reminded in the media that food can become unsafe when basic sanitation measures are not followed; whether in the production line, as food is delivered, when it is stored on premises or when careless food service workers neglect standard hygiene measures," said ServSafe instructor Deb Maes. "The result of these actions causes almost 50,000,000 people to

become sick from foodborne bacteria each year."

UNH Cooperative Extension has been offering ServSafe classes since 1998 and has reached more than 2,000 food service workers across the state with its food safety programs. The focus of the ServSafe program is to reduce the risk of foodborne illness by paying close attention to personal hygiene, cross-contamination, and time and temperature issues in the food preparation area. Participants who successfully complete the exam at the end of the training will receive the industry-wide recognized ServSafe certificate as food safety managers.

Deb Maes is a retired Extension food safety specialist and a nationally certified ServSafe Instructor. Those who wish to register or seek more information may contact her at [deborah.maes@unh.edu](mailto:deborah.maes@unh.edu) or 603-787-6944. Seating is limited, so early registration is encouraged.



### WINDOWS TO THE WILD MEETS RIDE THE WILDS

"Windows to the Wild" a weekly program on N.H. Public Television airing Wednesdays, was at Bear Rock Adventures in East Colebrook on Tuesday morning to film a segment about Ride the Wilds. Following an interview with North Country OHRV president Harry Brown, a large group of riders went out on the trails, where the camera crew did more interviews and captured footage. Among the group were members of the Silver Riders ATV Club, Wounded Warriors at 45 North and other local volunteers and officials, with show host Willem Lange at front and center.

(Jake Mardin photo)