

**Statement to the Duanesburg Town Board at the
Regular Meeting held March 28, 2024**

On March 14, 2024 this Board approved an agreement with Charter/Spectrum to provide wired broadband to 12 residences on Schoharie Turnpike, Bozen Kill Road and Duanesburg Churches Road.

Tonight I anticipate you will approve an agreement with Midtel to provide wired broadband service to 3 residences on Sheldon Road.

The completion of work under these two contracts will accomplish the goal set down for the Duanesburg Broadband Committee when it was formed in early 2018. That goal was to provide wired broadband service to a third of the town (approximately 600 households) that we knew to be unserved at that time.

Back in December of 2014, when I promised my daughter I would get her internet “like normal people,” I never imagined how much work and time it would take to fulfill that promise. Well, here we are. We could not have done it without the tireless support of this Town Board, Supervisor Bill Wenzel, Town Attorney Teresa Backner and her colleagues at Whiteman Osterman and Hanna, Supervisor Roger Tidball and Town Board Member John Ganther. I also owe my deepest gratitude to all the elected and appointed officials and their staff members who attended meetings, organized, and advocated for us, and listened to my bellyaching on a regular basis – Those people included – but were not limited to - Angelo Santabarbara and his staff, the staff of State Senators George Amedore and Michelle Hinchey, Chair of the Schenectady County Legislature Toni Jasenski, our Schenectady County Legislators including Brian McGarry (may he rest in peace) and the County Manager’s office, Congressman Paul Tonko and his staff and Chair Jessica Rosenworcel and her chief of staff at the FCC. All these and more helped us with our cause.

There are still a few loose ends I’d like to tie up including providing an update to the Duanesburg Comprehensive Plan. I am aware there are still some locations in town that lack a wired broadband connection and I believe they are, or will be, eligible for grant assistance through incumbent Internet Service Providers. I remain available to assist in whatever way I can.

Again. Thanks to everyone for a job well done!

Annabel V. Felton
Chair, Duanesburg Broadband Committee