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## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

### **FalmouthNet and Tilson sign agreement for engineering project to design town-wide fiber optic Internet access network.**

**Falmouth, Massachusetts, November 15, 2021** - FalmouthNet, Inc. and Tilson today announced the signing of a contract under which Tilson would generate an engineering design for the state-of-the-art fiber optic Internet access network envisioned by FalmouthNet. This network would serve every home and business in Falmouth with reliable, affordable, upgradeable Internet connections.

Work on the engineering design begins immediately. The final report, due on January 21, 2022, would provide sufficient detail to apply for such federal and state funds that may be available for network construction in 2022, to approach private lenders and investors as necessary, to inform Falmouth Town Meeting should it be desirable to fund (or partially fund) the project with a municipal bond, and to enter into negotiations with potential construction partners.

The engineering design includes a fiber routing plan, an assessment of available technologies, an assessment of construction methodologies, generation of an equipment list, field work to validate construction parameters, and a detailed construction cost estimate.

This work is financed by the current Massachusetts budget, thanks to the initiative of Senator Susan Moran, Representative David Vieira and Representative Dylan Fernandes.

“Broadband internet access is a crucial resource for expanding economic opportunities and improving quality of life in our district,” said Senator Moran. “Supporting the success of FalmouthNet so that we can bring high-quality fiber optic internet access to Falmouth has been one of my top priorities, and I am proud to have been able to secure \$150,000 in direct funding for the project. The beginning of work on FalmouthNet’s engineering design marks a major milestone for both the project and our community. It is a promising start to a major investment in the future of Falmouth.”

Representative David Vieira said:

"This announcement of the engineering phase of FalmouthNet is a major step forward for a future reliable high speed network in Falmouth. We saw firsthand the limitations of current internet options when many businesses and our schools had to go remote during the height of the pandemic. I am proud to support this project in a bipartisan partnership with my colleagues Sen. Susan Moran and Rep. Dylan Fernandes."

Representative Dylan Fernandes said:

“Access to high speed internet should be a right and treated like a public utility. Falmouth Net is leading the way in connecting Falmouth residents and Su Moran did an incredible job in securing \$150,000 in the budget to help fund a town-wide engineering design”.

Courtney Bird, the President of FalmouthNet, Inc. said, “This is a big step towards the network we want,” he said. “We look forward to a productive partnership with Tilson.”

Joshua Broder, Tilson’s CEO, added “Tilson is thrilled to support FalmouthNet on this project. Designing a world-class fiber optic network that will deliver fast, reliable connectivity to residents, businesses, and students in Falmouth is a direct reflection of our mission.”

Art Gaylord, a board member of FalmouthNet, led negotiations of the contract on behalf of FalmouthNet. He said, “We selected Tilson from eight companies that responded to our RFP for this work. Tilson emerged from the three finalists we interviewed. Our discussions indicate that the company is highly qualified to take our project to the next level.”

**About Tilson:** Tilson is on a mission to build America’s information infrastructure. Recognized eleven consecutive years on the Inc. 5000, Tilson provides network deployment and information system professional services to telecom, construction, utility and government clients. As a leading network design, build, and operating firm, Tilson builds high-performing technology project teams who take on the largest and most impactful information infrastructure projects in the country. For more information visit: [www.tilsontech.com](http://www.tilsontech.com).

**About FalmouthNet, Inc.:** FalmouthNet is a Massachusetts non-profit corporation with federal 501(c)(3) status and an all-volunteer board and management. It was formed on October 15, 2020 to promote, plan and guide the financing, construction, marketing and operation of a reliable, affordable, locally directed, state-of-the-art Internet access network capable of serving all residents, businesses, non-profit and government entities in the town of Falmouth, Massachusetts for the benefit of the citizens of Falmouth. For more information visit: [www.falmouthnet.org](http://www.falmouthnet.org).

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