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421 Page Street, Suite 2, Stoughton, MA 02072

September 24, 2025

Town of Stoughton Select Board:

Hon. Stephen Cavey, Chair; Hon. Joseph Mokrisky, Member; Hon. Debra Roberts, Member; Hon. Lou Gitto, Member; Hon. Scott Carrara, Member – Stoughton Select Board,

and

Town Manager – Town of Stoughton:

Thomas Calter

10 Pearl Street  
Stoughton, MA 02072

VIA Personal Delivery and

Email: [scavey@stoughton-ma.gov](mailto:scavey@stoughton-ma.gov), [jmokrisky@stoughton-ma.gov](mailto:jmokrisky@stoughton-ma.gov), [droberts@stoughton-ma.gov](mailto:droberts@stoughton-ma.gov), [lgitto@stoughton-ma.gov](mailto:lgitto@stoughton-ma.gov), [sdcarrara@stoughton-ma.gov](mailto:sdcarrara@stoughton-ma.gov), [tcalter@stoughton-ma.gov](mailto:tcalter@stoughton-ma.gov)

**Re: SMAC and the Town of Stoughton**

Dear Honorable Members of the Select Board:

I write on behalf of Stoughton Media Access Corporation (“SMAC”) as its Treasurer and as a member of its Board of Directors. By this letter, and before the currently scheduled October 9, 2025 meeting of the Town of Stoughton (the “Town”) Select Board, SMAC formally objects to the participation of Select Board Chairperson Stephen Cavey, Select Board Member Joseph

Mokrisky, and Town Manager Thomas Calter III in any communication, discussion, presentation, deliberation, decision, vote, or other action concerning defaulting SMAC under the Access Corporation Agreement between SMAC and the Town (the "Agreement") or terminating that Agreement. SMAC demands the Select Board prohibit and exclude these three named individuals from participating in any such action. Their participation is improper, is and continues to be a direct conflict of interest given the well-documented bias of Mr. Cavey, Mr. Mokrisky, and Mr. Calter against SMAC as a result of their disputes with SMAC and the fact that they are named as defendants in the pending lawsuit filed by SMAC as Town Officials and as individuals.

As you know, Mr. Cavey, Mr. Mokrisky, and Mr. Calter are defendants (the "Individual Defendants") as both individuals and as Town Officials in the federal civil rights lawsuit entitled, *Stoughton Media Access Corporation v. The Town of Stoughton, Massachusetts, Thomas Calter III, Stephen Cavey, And Joseph Mokrisky, In Their Individual And Official Capacities, Civil Action No. 1:25-CV-10886-IT*, currently pending in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts (the "Lawsuit"). In the Lawsuit, SMAC alleges that the Individual Defendants, as well as the Town, engaged in acts that violated SMAC's civil rights, defamed SMAC, and breached the Agreement in bad faith. In the Lawsuit, SMAC describes a long and intense campaign of repeated threats, intimidation, harassment, and retaliation against SMAC by the Individual Defendants and the Town, all in response to SMAC's refusal to agree to their demands to limit the scope of SMAC's programming to coverage perceived to be positive to the Individual Defendants and/or the Town on certain issues, thereby directly violating SMAC's civil rights, defaming SMAC, and interfering with SMAC's contract obligation under the Agreement to provide unbiased programming on newsworthy issues, whether the coverage could

be taken as positive or negative on any given issue.

Despite the clear conflict of interest due to them being defendants in the Lawsuit, the Town has taken action with their participation like multiple meetings that have included discussions of Town matters implicating SMAC and the Agreement at which the Individual Defendants have been present and participated. Most recently, SMAC received notice from Chairperson Cavey of the intention of the Select Board to, during its upcoming October 9, 2025, meeting, hold a public hearing on whether to default SMAC pursuant to the Agreement, or to outright terminate the Agreement in its entirety. The notice did not state that the Individual Defendants would be barred from attending that meeting or prohibited from speaking or voting at that meeting. The anticipated vote is in direct response to the Lawsuit filed by SMAC and is a transparent attempt to improperly force SMAC to withdraw the Lawsuit by withdrawing SMAC's source of funding. In short, the planned vote constitutes another act of retaliation against SMAC for exercising its rights by the Individual Defendants and the Town.

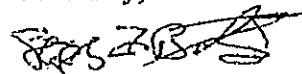
Including Mr. Cavey, Mr. Calter, or Mr. Mokrisky in any deliberations or vote of the Select Board regarding defaulting SMAC or terminating the Agreement is unduly prejudicial to SMAC and an exercise of discretion based on improper motives given the unavoidable influence any participation by the Individual Defendants would have over a final decision. The Individual Defendants have personal motives, including, but not limited to, financial motives, for favoring a default of SMAC and/or termination of the Agreement, motives which taint the merits of any decision-making by the Select Board with bad faith, improper motives and the resulting public action based on conflict of interest as the dominant reason. It is completely inappropriate for named defendants in a federal lawsuit to be permitted to deliberate or vote on issues that could impact their own liability in that lawsuit or elsewhere. Permitting these individuals to participate

in any deliberation or vote concerning the Agreement only strengthens the claims by SMAC in the Lawsuit; that the individuals who run the Town abuse their political influence and employ threats, intimidation, harassment, and retaliation to further their personal agendas. The very integrity of Select Board depends on whether it permits Mr. Cavey, Mr. Calter, and Mr. Mokrisky to participate in the upcoming meeting and any other communications, discussions, presentations, deliberations, decisions, or vote concerning defaulting SMAC or terminating the Agreement. Nothing could undermine the integrity of any deliberation or vote more than permitting the named defendants in a federal lawsuit to deliberate or vote on the future of the very party that named them as defendants in that lawsuit about the subject of the lawsuit and to do so further violates SMAC's civil rights and contract rights.

We prefer not to expand the dispute beyond the claims already made in the pending federal court litigation, however, if Mr. Cavey, Mr. Mokrisky, and Mr. Calter continue their unethical participation in Town deliberations and decisions concerning defaulting SMAC or terminating the Agreement, then SMAC must pursue all courses of action and remedies available to protect its operations, employees, reputation, and civil rights if the Select Board moves forward with deliberating or voting on defaulting SMAC under the Agreement or terminating the Agreement.

SMAC requests the Select Board respond to this letter immediately and confirm how it intends to proceed in light of the concerns raised in this letter.

Sincerely,



Steve Bates  
Treasurer  
Stoughton Media Access Corporation