

## City of Stout

204B Main Street  
PO BOX 288  
Stout, IA 50673  
319-346-2763  
Cityofstout@gmail.com

8.22.23

To whom it may concern,

We are writing to inform you that the City of Stout would support Dumont Telephone company bringing fiber optic internet to town.

Dumont has been a helping hand to the City of Stout since we were able to apply as a broadband intervention zone. They stayed in constant contact with us and INRCOG to help us with the application process. We appreciated every extra step they took without promise of financial gain. Dumont Telephone has the local/small town feel which is appealing to a small City like Stout. We have had many residents express their hopes that Dumont Telephone would bring service to town and apply for NOFA #8. Given this, we believe if Dumont is awarded, their services will be widely and quickly adopted.

In looking through the pricing for their speed packages available, it appears that their pricing is comparable to what the residents and city pay now, with the service being significantly faster and more reliable.

We appreciate you considering Dumont Telephone to meet the internet needs that our small community is lacking. We have many people in town who work remotely for critical businesses in the Cedar Valley as well as many students who attend Dike-New Hartford and surrounding colleges. This service would greatly meet the needs of those individuals and businesses.

Thank You for your time and efforts. We are truly grateful to be a part of this process.

City of Stout

***Brooke Spencer, City Clerk***

***Jim Folkerts, Mayor***

**Northeast Iowa Gutters & Construction, LLC**  
418 3<sup>rd</sup> Street PO Box 338 Stout, Iowa 50673  
319-939-1998



August 23, 2023

Re: Need for Reliable Internet

To Whom it May Concern:

I am currently a business owner in Stout, Iowa. My business is run solely out of my home. I need to be able to do my invoicing, quotes, and use my QuickBooks software while online. I also do a lot of my supply ordering online as well as online auctions. It is very difficult to do all of this successfully without reliable internet connections and slow internet speeds. My security cameras on my buildings, to protect my business assets/machinery, run off of Wi-Fi as well. Life, as a business owner, would be much less stressful if I could count on our internet to run at a high speed and stay connected all day. I would fully support Dumont if they came to Stout with reliable, high speed internet. As a local small business owner I like to support other local businesses. Especially since we have heard their service is more reliable then the other company bidding to bring internet.

Best Regards,

*Michael Nefzger*

Michael Nefzger  
NE Iowa Gutters & Construction  
319-939-1998  
[nef.mike@gmail.com](mailto:nef.mike@gmail.com)

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my concern about the lack of reliable internet in Stout, IA. I am presently employed with the school district and I often need to do work from home for my students that requires a reliable internet connection. I am also currently taking online continuing ed courses that is extremely hard to do from home with our currently internet connections.

I also have three children, one in high school, one in middle school, and one in elementary. They clearly need fast and reliable internet for homework as well as entertainment purposes. It's also very difficult when both older kids must work on their school laptops at the same time, the internet gets so bogged down. Especially if someone else is using the internet for tv or entertainment.

I am also currently a member of our City Council in Stout I would love to be able to help bring reliable internet to our residents. It is the biggest complaint we get in town we have been working on this for years. We should be able to provide rural areas in Iowa with reliable internet. As a resident and council member I would support Dumont coming to Stout.

Thank you,

*Christina Gronowski*

Christina Gronowski  
Gronowski08@gmail.com  
319-243-0774  
313 Main St  
Stout, Ia 50673

9 Aug 23

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is James Folkerts, and I am currently the Mayor of the City of Stout and the Chief of the Stout Fire Department. A challenge that our community faces is our unreliable internet service currently provided to our area. We have several residents that work from home, in fact my wife is one of those residents. This can be very frustrating to our whole household when the internet service is poor at the time.

I am writing this in support of the possibility of Dumont Telephone, or any other service provider, to bring us affordable and stable high-speed internet. I strongly feel that this would give our community another tool to allow us to grow.

Thank You

James Folkerts  
Mayor, City of Stout  
Chief, Stout Fire Department  
402 Main St  
PO Box 306  
Stout, IA 50673  
319-239-3114