

City of Nashua



Cable Television Advisory Board Comcast Franchise Renewal Subcommittee

AGENDA

April 22, 2021

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83807296912?pwd=NGFrQ3laWlFpMTNoMzRRcjRrbnNSZz09> Meeting ID: 838 0729 6912 Passcode: 999999
1-929-205-6099

Call to order:

Review of 2015 Process – as outlined in Communication from B. Codagnone

Planning the Ascertainment of Community Needs Process

Gathering information to identify local programming needs and interests in the areas of public, educational and governmental ("PEG") access (needs regarding PEG operational and capital funding, channels, and equipment and facilities); City cable-related needs such as video return lines and municipal meeting equipment needs; Network and City network capabilities; cable needs of municipal buildings and schools; and reviewing complaints, performance data and compliance with the license and with applicable laws.

Information Gathering Process

Public Hearing

Meetings with Municipal Officials and City Leaders

Community and other Stakeholders

Committee Meeting Dates

Adjournment



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Information Technology Division
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MEMO

To: Board of Aldermen

From: Bruce Codagnone

Date: September 17, 2015

Re: (R-15-168) Comcast Franchise Agreement – Amended per Finance Committee

Please find the attached Comcast Franchise Agreement; amended as a result of the Finance committee on September 16, 2015.

By way of Background, I provided a brief timeline on what occurred resulting in the recommendations from the Franchise Negotiating team.

- 2014 - Mayor appointed a Franchise renewal working team
 - Brian Geraghty – Citizen of Nashua
 - Tom Galligani – Director of Economic Development
 - Bruce Codagnone – Director of Information Technology
 - Andrew Cernota – Chairman of CTAB
 - Celia Leonard – Assistant Corporation Counsel
 - Daniel Moriarty – Alderman-At-Large
- Public Hearing held – December 10, 2014, 7:00 PM in the City Hall Auditorium
- Conducted a Survey
 - 365 Total Responses
 - Frequently asked about competition – FIOS not available in New Hampshire and any other cable company would have to buy Comcast's infrastructure.
 - There were a great deal of complaints around Internet service – this is outside the scope of the Franchise agreement
 - The Survey results were posted on the City's website
- Created an information webpage on the City's website
- Presented the status to the Planning & Economic Development Committee April 21, 2015, 7:00 PM
- Conducted monthly meetings with Franchise Renewal working team
- Status updates provided to CTAB at each monthly meeting as "Old Business"
- Draft contract received from Comcast August 4, 2015 and sent to Franchise Renewal working team for review
- Draft contract, without recommendations from the Franchise Renewal working team, inadvertently sent to the Board of Aldermen on September 9, 2015
- Draft contract was updated with the Franchise Renewal working team's recommendations on September 10, 2015
- The team agreed that no major changes were required to the contract other than including the public channel in the funding and a reduced term

- At the CTAB meeting on September 11, 2015, Fred Teeboom stated that CTAB needed to approve the contract prior to going to the Finance Committee for approval
- 9/11/2015 – Sent out the draft contract to CTAB members

Recommendations

- Due to the shift from traditional TV viewing to watching programming via streaming through the Internet, the City's revenue from Franchise fees could be negatively impacted. We recommend a shorter (7 Year) contract to see what federal legislation is going to be implemented
- Recommend funding the Public channel with Government and Education and breaking out the 4% franchise fee to 1.3% to PEG and 2.7% to the General Fund
- Recommend \$151,000 for capital improvements since it is a 7 year instead of 10. Note: this also is passed on to the citizens
- Based upon the survey results, we recommend asking Comcast for regular reporting on what they are doing to improve customer service

We DO NOT recommend raising the Franchise fee since this fee is a direct pass through to the citizens of Nashua.

Regards,

Bruce R. Codagnone
CIO / IT Division Director

Cc:
Donnalee Lozeau, Mayor
Celia Leonard, Assistant Corporation Counsel
John L. Griffin, CFO