

**City of Bloomington  
Telecommunication Council  
Business Meeting – December 2, 2008**

Common Council Chambers  
City Hall at the Showers Building  
401 N. Morton St.

**I. Attendance**

**Members Present:** Carl Zager, Eric Ost, Suzann Owen, Duane Busick

**Others Present:** Rick Dietz- ITS, Justin Goodwin –ITS, Vickie Renfrow – Legal,  
Phil Meyer – WTIU, Jeff Schemmer – Police, Martin O’Neil – CATS

**II. Approval of November Minutes**

Motion was made by Duane Busick to accept minutes. Suzann Owen seconded the motion, with some minor corrections. All approved. Motion was passed.

**III. Public Comment – None**

**IV. Reports**

**1. Telecom Members**

Eric – none

Duane – none

Suzann – Hopefully, we will have a report in January or February about the changes in FCC membership, whether the changes will be in favor of industry or consumer.

**2. CATS – Martin O’Neil**

Programming listed. New equipment has been bought. Some numbers are down but that is due to the holidays. They have had no contact with AT&T.

**3. WTIU – Phil Meyer**

- Launching a new series “In Focus” will have 12 different topics, one each month.
- (Jan. – The Economy, February – The Arts, March – The State House, April – Volunteerism)
- In February, PBS World will become 24 hrs, due to the digital conversion.
- Local programs will be inserted as capability is available.
- FYI – WTIU has been invited to an FCC outreach meeting, about consumer outreach education.
- Getting a new encoder, by Feb.2 all 4 channels will be on the air.

**4. ITS Dept. – Rick Dietz**

- Notice of BDU Advisory Meeting on Thursday Dec. 4 at 4pm.
- Received a letter from AT&T, inquiring about the status of PEG channels. It didn’t offer any new information. It stated that they had made new improvements to their platform. A number of communities had come on the universe platform and eagerly await the Bloomington to do the same. (Group would like a copy of the letter.)
- A draft response had been made. (Group would like to see a copy of the drafted response.)
- On institutional network service  
Suzann: Has an effort been made to renew the video service to public buildings and schools.  
Rick: Letter is ready to go out tomorrow to all the area service providers. We are also sharing the letter with Monroe County government, and Ellettsville, as well as MCCSC.
- On interaction with AT&T  
Carl: Motion made at the last meeting relating to the PEG issue and AT&T. Are we ready to take any steps? Motion was re-read.

Rick: We are ready, if that is the proper course of action, to draft a request for AT&T to meet these certain requirements. Then if they aren't able to do that, then we could escalate to the next step.

Eric: Request pertains to co-location, tele-com hotel, and picking up signal up from there.

Rick: Our interest is seeing that AT&T meet all their obligations.

Eric: Have they been put on notice?

Rick: We will be drafting a letter that would outline what we expect from AT&T regarding the PEG carriage. If they aren't willing we'll explore other remedies.

#### **5. Comcast**

- No report

#### **6. AT&T**

- No Report

### **V. Old Business**

Suzann reported on Revenue

AT&T = \$ 10,741.54

Comcast = \$ 159,000

July – Sept. 2008 up \$2700 from the previous quarter.

Oct. – Dec. 2007 \$179,000.00 ( Last Insight check)

Jan. – Mar. 2008 \$ 174,000.00 (Comcast)

Apr. – June 2008 \$167,000.00

July – Sept. 2008 \$ 159,000.00

Duane: We need a subscriber count, from the providers.

Carl: Council has no information relative to the source of the money being provided by the video providers. We don't know if it is coming from a subscriber number that is dwindling or a subscriber number that is remaining the same or rising, or money coming from higher rates.

We also don't know whether those numbers are the numbers being used to provide the funds. Does the amount of money represent the number of subscribers, which represents this amount of money? These issues exist and need to be directed to the IURC and to the state legislature. The Associations of cities and towns should also be included. Council will be working with Rick to draft a letter. No motion needed.

### **Taskforce Business**

Members of taskforce have been gathered. Those accepting are Iris Keisling, Mike Saterfield, Matt Pierce, John Hooker, and Jeff Schemmer.

First meeting will be on December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 6pm. We need to have this meeting posted for the general public to attend.

Jeff Schemmer - Feelers were put out to locate those counties that use local override. So far response has been none, but only 4 to 5 have responded.

### **VI. Adjournment**

#### **Next Regular Meeting**

Tuesday January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 7:30

Common Council Chambers in City Hall at the Showers Building  
401 N. Morton St.

Submitted By:

Stephanie Jachim 12-5-08