

Lakeville Cable TV Advisory Committee
MINUTES
November 29, 2021

Present: Robert Marshall, Tom Cirignano & Walter Healey

Guests: Jose Invencio, Executive Director, LakeCAM
Bill August, Esq.

Location: Zoom Meeting

Robert Marshall called the Committee to order at 6:59 P.M.

Roll call vote: Robert Marshall – aye; Tom Cirignano – aye, and, Walter Healey - aye

November 29, 2001, the Lakeville Cable TV Advisory Committee participated in the Lakeville Board of Selectmen hearing for the possible renewal of the license for Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC.

Chairman Marshall summarized the negotiation process with Comcast, and reviewed the gains and losses in the summary he provided to the Board. Under gains, he noted that gross annual revenues were increased from 4% to 4.75%. The level playing field language in Section 2.3 is better than what was proposed by Comcast. We will have a new HD channel, in addition to the other three (3) channels. The encoders will be paid for by LakeCAM and repaired, maintained or replaced by Comcast as needed. Comcast will no longer allow Senior Discount Benefits to be in the contract, but it will be in a side letter. The Comcast license is a ten (10) year license. Many of the gains involved avoiding potentially negative language that Comcast wanted in some of the articles.

Under losses, Comcast will no longer provide the free basic drops to municipal locations. It might not be a loss because surveying the Town Departments, almost everyone said they do not use the basic drop; they pay for an upgrade. This loss was impacted by an FCC ruling which could allow a cable company to not pay us as much. We wanted LakeCAM programming to be included on an electronic channel guide, but we were unsuccessful. Regarding the location of the customer service office, Comcast had paid the Town to allow the office to be moved to Raynham. We were concerned that this office might be moved again further away. He was given assurances that Comcast has no intention in moving the current customer service office. The language in the license states that it must be in a Town reasonably convenient to Lakeville.

Chairman Marshall spoke of LakeCAM's contribution to the Town. He noted that the Cable TV Advisory Committee recommended that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the license renewal. Attorney August said this is a robust license, based on the increase in funding and the addition of another HD channel.

Upon a motion made by Selectman Carboni and seconded by Selectman LaCamera, it was:

VOTED: Finding that the cable franchise renewal proposal of Comcast reasonably meets the franchise and cable-related renewal needs and interests of the public and Town; and finding that Comcast's financial and technical qualifications and local programming channels, facilities, and services are reasonable to meet Town cable franchise needs;

And in accordance with the recommendation of the Town of Lakeville Cable Advisory Committee in favor of approval of the Lakeville Comcast Renewal License;

I move that the Board of Selectmen, as Issuing Authority for the Town, vote to accept and approve the Renewal License Agreement with Comcast effective January 23, 2022 and execute the renewal license.

Roll call vote: Selectman Carboni – aye; Selectman LaCamera – aye and Chair Fabian – aye.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Healey and seconded by Mr. Cirignano, it was:

VOTED: To adjourn the Cable TV Advisory Committee Meeting at 7:25 PM.

Roll call vote: Mr. Cirignano – aye; Mr. Healey – aye and Chairman Marshall – aye.