

MINUTES

Oshkosh Cable Television Advisory Commission

REGULAR MEETING

February 6, 2008

The regular meeting of the Oshkosh Cable Television Advisory Commission was held at 4:00 p.m. on February 6, 2008 in Room 404 of City Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Witte and roll call was taken. Present were members Mr. Rumlow, Mr. Bain, Mr. Kerkhof, and Mr. Salzwedel. Also present was Jon Urben, Director of Media Services.

Chairman Witte then asked for consideration of the minutes from the November 7, 2007, meeting. It was moved by Mr. Kerkhof, seconded by Mr. Rumlow, that the minutes be approved with the date change noted. Motion carried unanimously.

There were no Communications from cable subscribers and there was no Report of the Franchisee.

Chairman Witte then asked for the Report of OCMS. Mr. Urben then presented a report on his summary of the impact of Wisconsin Act 42 (Wisconsin Cable Competition Act) on OCMS and the City of Oshkosh. In summary, Mr. Urben specified the City will continue to collect a 5% quarterly franchise fee from any incumbent or new future video service provider (VSP) in the city. The current monthly PEG access capital support fee (37 cents per subscriber) collected from Time Warner customers will continue until December, 2010. This fee would also apply to any new VSP's. The loss of capital support beyond 2010 will have a major impact in the OCMS operation, and will require the OCMS to request capital upgrade or replacement items in the City's capital improvement program after 2010. The other major concern of Act 42 was language that may be interpreted to allow incumbent or VSP's to move OCMS channels off the basic lineup in other service tiers such as digital channels. Mr. Urben this would be an incredible marketing and public relations challenge in addition to making OCMS channels harder to find by viewers. Discussion then followed on Comcast's attempt in Michigan to move PEG channels from the basic tiers on their system to digital channels. A federal court order stopped the process after local and state officials intervened on behalf of viewers, PEG supporters and municipalities. This issue had also been reviewed in congressional hearings as recently as last week. The issue will continue to be monitored.

He noted that the city is ready to provide the necessary materials should Time Warner or other VSP's submit for the state franchise application process. He anticipated Time Warner would do so in the very near future.

Discussion then followed on the future role and need of the Cable Commission if the local franchise would be terminated by Time Warner and then handled by the Department of Financial Institutions with the State. It was agreed the issue would be revisited at the next meeting.

Being there was no Unfinished Business Chairman Witte asked for any New Business. Under New Business, Mr. Urben noted OCMS will debut its new OCMS website offering webstreaming capabilities on Thursday, February 28. The 2008 State of the City Address would be the first event webstreamed on the site. The new website address will be www.oshkoshcommunitymedia.org which will be pointed from the current site www.ocatonline.com. He noted all CitiCable 10 televised meetings would be available both live and archived, in addition to other CitiCable 10 municipal programs and public affairs programs.

There being no New Business, Chairman Witte then noted the next Commission meeting would be Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at 4 p.m. Upon motion by Mr. Rumlow, seconded by Mr. Bain, the Commission adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon G. Urben

Jon G. Urben
Media Services Director
City of Oshkosh

cc: Mr. John Fitzpatrick
Mr. Bill Harkey