

## **Minutes of the Hudson Cable Utility Committee (“CUC”) Meeting Tuesday November 16, 2010**

**1. CALL TO ORDER** Chairman O’Keefe called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

**2. ATTENDANCE:** Present Michael O’Keefe, Leo Bernard, Michael Blau, Selectman Roger Coutu, School Board Member Lee Lavoie and Harry Schibanoff. Rupert Cote and Stewart Kroner were excused. Jim McIntosh the Cable Facilitator (“CF”) also attended.

**3. PUBLIC INPUT:**

None.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

The minutes of the October 19, 2010 meeting were reviewed by the CUC. There were no changes or corrections. Motion was made by Mr. Coutu to accept the minutes and seconded by Mr. Bernard. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

**5. OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**6. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. HCTV Access Center Building Proposal**

At the last Board of Selectmen (“BOS”) meeting, the idea of including a permanent Access Center in the basement of the proposed Senior Center at Benson Park was presented to the BOS. Mr. O’Keefe had drafted a floor plan and a list of the required space needed for the BOS. The BOS decided to proceed with the plan and have the HCTV Access Center in the basement of the proposed Senior Center.

Since that meeting, Mr. O’Keefe has met with the Building Committee of the Council on Aging (“Seniors”) and the architect of the building. It is anticipated that the CUC would contribute to the cost of the building from its Capital Reserve Fund but the amount is unknown at this time. This split will be decided by the BOS. The proposal would also become a warrant article for the 2012 Town Meeting. A series of questions about the building were addressed to Mr. O’Keefe. It is anticipated that if the warrant article is approved and the Department of Transportation allows the structure in Benson Park, that it could be opened by early 2012. Other questions were asked about the need for additional equipment at the location. It was anticipated that this would not a major expense item since the CUC has acquired the current equipment for the Access Center.. Additional lighting may be needed due to the size of the structure but this will be determined at a later time.

The proposal will be presented to the BOS at their next meeting.

**B. Community Survey for Franchise Renewal**

Mr. O’Keefe stated that the franchise agreement with Comcast would expire in August 2011. He said it was time to begin discussing the agreement so that we may present our ideas and comments to Comcast in early 2011.

The first step in this process is to survey Comcast users in Hudson about their opinions of cable access in Hudson. Several ways of doing this were discussed by the committee. The Committee reviewed surveys done by the Cable Committee in Londonderry and it was decided to develop a questionnaire from this data. The method of distribution was discussed. It was decided to use the HudsonCTV.com page and the Town Web Page for a link to the survey. In addition, surveys could be distributed via various publications in town to reach those who may not have computer access. Other methods of assessing the use of cable TV in Hudson were to develop feedback from both the Town offices, the School Board and the SAU. Mr. O'Keefe will draft a proposed questionnaire and distribute it to the CUC. It is hoped that the survey will be completed by year end.

Mr. Coutu reminded those watching the meeting that the BOS has basically no control over the rates and corporate actions of Comcast. They are a private company and we are only a franchisee. Mr. O'Keefe explained that Comcast does not have an exclusive franchise with the Town, but the practicality and cost of developing a competing franchise in a town the size of Hudson is prohibitive.

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS/ REMARKS:**

**A. Other Business:** None

### **B. Remarks**

Mr. Coutu reiterated the support of the BOS for all the volunteers on Town committees. He thanked each member of the CUC and complemented each one on his commitment. He said this appreciation extends to all the Town volunteers.

Mr. McIntosh reported Alvirne students were at the Access Center today to work on their Studio 19 program. He hopes this type of activity will be expanded in the future and there will be more interaction between the Access Center and Alvirne..

Mr. Schibanoff inquired about the status of the Comcast drop at Alvirne High School. Mr. O'Keefe said that it is almost complete.

Mr. O'Keefe said that the proposed 2012 budget will be presented to the Budget Committee in December. He also said that we may have the vacancy filled on the CUC in January.

Mr. Lavoie and Mr. Bernard wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Coutu moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Lavoie. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 P.M.

Submitted by Harry A. Schibanoff, Clerk  
November 18, 2010



**TOWN OF HUDSON**  
**CABLE UTILITY COMMITTEE**



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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**CABLE UTILITY COMMITTEE**

November 16, 2010 - 7:00 p.m.  
Town Hall, 12 School Street, Hudson, NH 03051  
Board of Selectmen Room

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Attendance**
3. **Public Input**
4. **Approval of Minutes**
  - A. October 19, 2010 Cable Utility Committee Meeting Minutes
5. **Old Business**
7. **New Business**
  - C. HCTV Access Center Building Proposal
  - D. Community Survey for Franchise Renewal
8. **Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members**
9. **Adjournment**