

Minutes of the Hudson Cable Utility Committee (“CUC”) Meeting Thursday June 15, 2010

1. CALL TO ORDER Chairman O’Keefe called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. ATTENDANCE: Present Michael O’Keefe, Rupert Cote, Stewart Kroner, Selectman Roger Coutu, Lee Lavoie and Harry Schibanoff. Jim McIntosh the Cable Facilitator (“CF”) and Leo Bernard the Senior Camera Operator (“SCO”) also attended.

3. PUBLIC INPUT:

None.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of the last meeting of May 18, 2010 were reviewed by the CUC. There were no changes or corrections. Motion was made by Mr. Cote to accept the minutes and seconded by Mr. Kroner. There were five members in agreement to accept the minutes and one abstention by Mr. Lavoie who was absent from that meeting.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

None

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Facilitator Contract

Mr. O’Keefe reported that the CUC needed to make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen (“BOS”) concerning the Facilitator Contract for the next fiscal year. The major item of discussion was the number of hours per month that should be contracted with Mr. McIntosh. His current contract permits up to 65 hours per month, however he has contributed considerably more time due to the expanded responsibilities brought on by the new Access Center (“AC”), training and development of community interest.

Mr. O’Keefe distributed a list of surrounding towns showing the their access TV staffing. Hudson and Litchfield were the only two that had one part time staff member. Larger communities such as Manchester, Nashua and Londonderry had up to 3 to 4 full time staff members. Smaller towns such as Pelham, Windham and Milford had one full time staff employee.

Mr. Coutu suggested that we develop a plan to expand the staffing of HCTV to include at least one full time staff member and a part time position to fill in when the facilitator is not available. He stated that HCTV is basically run by volunteers who devote many hours of their own time to make access TV work in Hudson. He pointed out that the contributions made by all of the committee members and their time devoted to access TV. He thought that Mr. McIntosh was a talented individual in his field and that the town is fortunate to have him as its facilitator. He emphasized that HCTV in the future should rely less on volunteerism and more on compensated staff.

Mr. O’Keefe agreed with Mr. Coutu but said that our immediate concern is the renewal of the contract as stated and that we can explore staffing changes at a later meeting.

Mr. Lavoie that offered the following motion that was seconded by Mr. Cote:

MOTION: That the CUC make a recommendation to the BOS to increase the number of hours contracted for the Cable Facilitator from 65 to 100 hours per month. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee was in general agreement on the performance of Mr. McIntosh and expressed their support of his efforts. Mr. O'Keefe said the change in hours would increase the cost of the contract by approximately \$10,500. Mr. Coutu asked that Mr. Lavoie and Mr. Griffus attend the next meeting of the BOS to support the recommendation of the CUC, since they have been active users of the equipment provided by HCTV.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Schibanoff asked if there would be any change in the hourly rate of the contract and the consensus of the CUC was that, there would not be a change in the rate.

7. OTHER BUSINESS/ REMARKS:

A. Other Business: None

B. Remarks

Mr. Coutu thanked Mr. Lavoie for his various programming efforts on HCTV. Mr. Lavoie said that the filming was the easy but editing was difficult. Mr. Schibanoff announced that the Grand Opening of Benson Park would be on September 25 with a rain date of September 26 and asked that HCTV cover the event. Mr. O'Keefe said that they would do so.

Mr. O'Keefe stated that the Alvirne graduation is this coming weekend and that HCTV will be covering it. He stated that we need to start planning for the contract renewal with Comcast. Mr. Coutu asked if the attorney had been picked. Mr. O'Keefe said that he/she had not and that we will try to limit the use of an attorney in this renewal. Mr. Kroner said that HCTV now has a Facebook page and urged the audience to look it up. The page contains information about HCTV and explains how Hudson residents can use the AC and the equipment of HCTV.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Coutu moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Cote. The meeting adjourned at 7:29 P.M.

Submitted by Harry A. Schibanoff, Clerk
June 17, 2010

PUBLIC NOTICE
CABLE UTILITY COMMITTEE

June 15, 2010 - 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall, 12 School Street, Hudson, NH 03051
Board of Selectmen Room

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Attendance**
- 3. Public Input**
- 4. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. May 18, 2010 Cable Utility Committee Meeting Minutes
- 5. Old Business**
- 7. New Business**
 - C. Facilitator Contract
- 8. Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members**
- 9. Adjournment**