



# **Milford Board of Selectmen & Granite Town Media Advisory Committee**

## **Comcast franchise agreement renewal minutes**

29 October 2018

**Milford BoS:** Paul Dargie, Kevin Federico, Michael Putnam

**GTMAC:** Kevin Federico, Tim Finan, Mike McInerney, Tom Schmidt

**Guest:** Bryan Christiansen: Sr. manager government & regulatory affairs Comcast Cable

**Call to Order: 5:30 PM**

Pursuant to NH RSA 53-C: 3-a a public meeting was held on renewal of the Milford Comcast cable television franchise agreement.

The franchise agreement is based on model agreements used by other NH towns, and very similar to our existing agreement with the following changes:

- Capital funding has been deleted. In the previous agreements the amount was \$75,000 paid in installment over the first three years. The franchise fee is expected to bring in enough revenue to fund GTM operation over the life of the agreement.
- Term is extended from 7 years to 10. This was a Comcast requirement to obtain a single high definition (HD) PEG channel. The HD channel will be used to improve sports coverage.

### **Citizen Comments**

Faye Richey

- The remote DVR feature no longer works. Bryan indicated this feature was pulled due to a patent issue. The patent is about to expire so Comcast plans on restoring the feature shortly.
- Problems with PBS (WGBH) closed captioning. Ms. Richey has been in contact with Comcast technical support to correct the problem but it has recently reoccurred. Bryan will follow up.

Rodney Richey

- Expressed concern a 10-year agreement was too long given the technology landscape. Tom stated extending the agreement was a condition to obtain an HD PEG channel. The franchise agreement is non-exclusive so another provider is able to service Milford. However due to high capital cost that is unlikely.

John Yule

- Complained service is unreliable and technical support provided contradictory information about available services and required equipment during a recent move.

**Adjourn:** 5:50 PM

Respectfully submitted: Tom Schmidt