



**Portsmouth
Cable Commission Meeting
7:00 p.m. – October 6, 2005
City Hall/City Manager's Conference Room**

The Portsmouth Cable Commission met on Thursday, October 6, 2005 at 4:00 p.m.

- I. Call to Order** - The following were present:
- John Gregg, Chairman
 - Louis Vinciguerra, Commissioner
 - Jeffrey Landry, Commissioner
 - Kathleen Pearce, Commissioner
 - Gene Fisk, Commissioner

Also present were Alan Brady, City of Portsmouth Webmaster and City Attorney Bob Sullivan.

John Gregg Chairman called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m.

- II. Approval of Minutes** – Voted to approve and accept the minutes of the August 18th, September 1st and September 8th Cable Commission Meetings.

III. Proposal of Legal Counsel for Cable Franchise Negotiations: Attorney Sullivan informed the Commission that he had spoken with Attorney Scully of Portland, ME, have not as yet received a proposal. In-house attorney would be primary and would use outside counsel as support in our negotiations. The commissioners were impressed with Attorney Scully and Chairman Gregg stated we would like a proposal regarding procedure and cost ramifications and that Mr. Scully would serve as a consultant rather than take a primary lead and would like to see this in the proposal. Commission discussed a potential conflict of interest for Attorney Scully's firm. Commission expressed willingness to issue a waiver or a limited retention agreement for the firm. Our next meeting is scheduled for November 3rd and would like to have the proposal by then. Attorney Sullivan will contact Attorney Scully.

IV. Non-Meeting with Counsel:

MOTION made by Jeff Landry to close the public session and have a non-meeting with counsel. Seconded by Louis Vinciguerra. Motion passed, and non-meeting was held.

V. Discussion: John Gregg will inform Emily Aronson that the Commission is in a learning phase and will be scheduling field trips to Manchester and Bedford sometime in December. The Commission will also meet with Superintendent Lister and High School staff to discuss their interest in an educational access channel.

The following correspondence was received by the Cable Commission and is entered into the record.

1. e-mail dated 10/6/05 from Daniel Mueller, a Portsmouth resident in support of Public Access Television. "Esteemed Council. I am a new resident of Portsmouth. I moved here 4 years ago from Minneapolis, Minnesota and fell in love with the community though I was surprised at the lack of Public Access Television.

With the abundance of local theater, music and arts there is surely a vast untapped pool of talent and perspective that many areas with public access do not have.

I am happy to hear The Council was considering including it in negotiations 2007. I am imagining interview shows with local artists, actors, musicians, and politicians.

I produced 3 single episode shows about 12 years ago and never had the time to do more. It was something I had always wanted to get back to. Now I have a job that is somewhat flexible in its hours. I am interested in supporting Public Access in the role of producer.

I appreciate the convenience of turning on 22 and watching local government at work. From what I have seen, I am confident the needs of the people will be carried out."

2. Letter dated August 1, 2005 from Joe Arnstein. "At present several major cities, including Minneapolis, Portland, San Antonio, San Francisco, and Chicago, are considering establishing municipal "Wi-Fi" clouds. Philadelphia is already initiating a citywide wi-fi project. Over two dozen smaller communities such as Chaska, Minnesota are already covered. Generally, the goal is to make the municipalities more attractive to businesses, tourists and residents.

Inasmuch as Portsmouth has a small wi-fi zone, it would seem feasible to figure the cost of expansion throughout downtown area or perhaps the entire city. In addition, there remains the possibility of private ownership, or perhaps some other funding such as exchanging cell tower space for wi-fi service. Is a wi-fi expansion something at which Portsmouth should take a closer look"?

Chairman Gregg asked if there was any other business.

There will be an alternative Commissioner who will replace a member not present, but is not a voting member.

VI. Adjournment:

MOTION made by to adjourn by Jeff Landry. Seconded by Louis Vinciguerra. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine E. Boucas