



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Administrative Conference Room
WEDNESDAY, May 3, 2017 6:00 PM

PRESENT: Chair, Walter Benenson; Vice Chair, Patrick Crowley; Commissioner, Tunga Kiyak;
Commissioner, Kevin Thatcher; Alternate Commissioner, Leslie Charles; Alternate
Commissioner, Eric Langdon
ABSENT: Commissioner Andrew Lathrop
STAFF: Deborah Guthrie, Communications Director
TOWNSHIP:
COMCAST:

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Benenson called the meeting to order at **6:00 pm**.

2. PUBLIC REMARKS

None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Kiyak moved **TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS SUBMITTED**. Seconded by
Commissioner Thatcher.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

4. BUDGET DISCUSSION

A. Communications Budget Memo

Director Guthrie described how PEG fees and Franchise fees are derived and what how they
are designated to be used. Director Guthrie explained the cable TV fund from the budget
packet, summarized the revenue account classifications and explained the fund balance and
expenditures.

Commissioners discussed the need to address AT&T revenue sources and possible decrease in
sources if AT&T were to go away as customers are currently being switched over to Direct TV.

B. Funding Future Projects – Additional Revenue Sources

Commissioners discussed funding future projects to assist in supplementing potential losses in
revenue. Members also discussed researching sources of revenue that could potentially
supplement the entire budget needed to operate the Communications Department.

Alternate Commissioner Charles stated she would look into an Art Endowment Fund. Alternate
Commissioner Langdon stated he would look into the Ingham County Animal Control
Fundraising efforts. Commissioner Kiyak stated that the Commission should look into a Non-
profit status to create a HOMTV Foundation. Commission Chair Benenson suggested a millage

Minutes – Communications Commission

April 12, 2017

Page 2

could be one avenue for a financial resource. Staff provided the Hannah Community Center as a good example of a community arts type center that could create revenue for the department.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Benenson adjourned the meeting

6. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for **June 14, 2017** in the Town Hall Room.