

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF NEW BERLIN
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
Wednesday July 19 5:00 PM
Common Council Chambers

Please note: Minutes are unofficial until approved by the Communications Committee at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Ken Harenda called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM.

Roll Call; Declaration of Quorum and Public Notice

Members Present: Alderman Paul Gallagher, Alderman John Hopkins and David Broker. Quorum was met with 4 of the 5 members present. Also present: City Attorney Mark Blum, IT Director Nick Roethel and City Clerk Marilyn Gauger.

The Committee has one vacancy.

Minutes

Motion by Alderman Hopkins to approve the May 17, 2006 minutes as printed. Seconded by Alderman Gallagher and carried unanimously.

Chairman Harenda deviated from the agenda to hear:

Discussion on Wireless Communications – WiFi Issue/Presentation Waukesha County IT Director

Mike Biagioli, Waukesha County IT Director gave a presentation on “Wireless Waukesha County” Initiative to determine how to move forward to provide wireless communications for the entire county. SEWRPC completed a study for Ozaukee County on this issue at no cost. He is hoping SEWRPC will work with Waukesha County and the existing workgroup of 6 communities, businesses, and a bank. The County is looking for communities to come forward to be part of this workgroup/study. Dollars are allocated to do this study within the County’s 2006 budget. The outcome of the study is economic viability and what profit component could vendors expect.

Discussion followed on: cost to community for study; communities banning together; best area of coverage within the City; only small percentage of population may be interested; may only use if priced right; goal is that no matter where you are in the County you are on; other technology that is coming; other technology that would be used with WiFi; capability to link governments; City would negotiate separately with the vendor with regards profits; 28 to 38 access points per square mile is needed; security and health issues - can find no documentation that this creates a problem (it’s low frequency).

Chairman Harenda asked Mr. Biagioli to keep us informed. He will contact/work with IT Director Roethel.

Alderman Gallagher left the meeting at 5:43PM.

Old Business:

Networking of City Structures – Fiber Optics – Time Warner Contract

No action taken.

Responsibilities of the Communications Committee/Structure/By-Laws

No action taken.

Discussion on electronic (paperless) agenda packets

City Clerk Gauger and IT Director Roethel will work together and have something for the next meeting.

Discussion on Wireless Communications – WiFi Issue/Presentation Waukesha County IT Director

See above.

Discussion on Franchise Agreements – Federal Level (FCC).

Chairman Harenda indicated we are waiting for what federal and state does.

Request to provide internet access in the Council Chambers & discussion on funding this installation/service

IT Director Roethel will bring forth something for the next meeting.

Discussion regarding request from AT&T for a license for their light speed program within the City of New Berlin

Chairman Harenda indicated we are waiting for what federal and state does.

Alderman Harenda read the following:

CLOSED SESSION

The basis for the items to be discussed in Closed Session are as enumerated in Section 19.85 (1) (e) of the Wisconsin State Statutes, deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session; more specifically discussion on the renewal of the Time Warner Cable Contract.

Motion by Alderman Hopkins to go to Closed Session at 5:46 PM. Seconded by David Broker and carried per roll call vote.

Motion by Alderman Hopkins to reconvene into Open Session at 6:09 PM. Seconded by David Broker and carried unanimously.

Open Session

Discussion on the renewal of the Time Warner Cable Contract – Expires 4/25/07.

No action taken.

Adjourn

Motion by David Broker to adjourn at 6:10 PM. Seconded by Alderman Hopkins and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Marilyn Gauger, CMC/WCMC
City Clerk