

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF NEW BERLIN
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
Wednesday, May 18, 2005
5:00 PM
Council Chambers

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

Members Present: Alderman Harenda, Alderman Hopkins, members Dave Broker and Michael Passineau

Others Present: Jack Chiovero, Mayor; Mark Blum, City Attorney; Marilyn Gauger, City Clerk and Sue Schaefer, Information Technology Manager

Alderman Harenda called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM.

New Business:

Approval of Minutes from the April 20, 2005 meeting.

Next meeting.

Old Business:

Discussion of review/requirement of a City Public Access Channel

Next meeting.

Update from Professional Audio Designs, Inc., on their previously submitted proposal of Audio / Visual Equipment for programming and a voting board. - Cable updates in Council Chambers / Possible Improvements to cable system and voting board

Ms Schaefer received an updated proposal on the remaining 2 components from Professional Audio Design:

- VoteLynx Voting systems – basic - \$20,971.84; advanced - \$28,421.88. The demonstration was given on the advanced system.

Mayor Chiovero, Catey Barnish from IT and the City Clerk viewed the City of Muskego voting system by ElectroVote. It is a basic system (approximately \$5,000) similar to what we have now however the Company has updated the system since it was installed at Muskego. There was a question whether it can be displayed on our cable channel.

Mayor Chiovero indicated he was disappointed in the demonstration held on the VoteLynx. Sue Schaefer indicated the City of Brookfield is looking at the d'san voting system however it has many things we really don't need.

Alderman/Chairman Harenda indicated the sound system equipment and power point function was approved by Council. The basic VoteLynx voting board was approved based on staff review and approval. Dave Broker felt the digital would be a better system than the analog (City of Muskego's). He worried about the analog expandability.

Mayor Chiovero indicated the digital system could be adaptable if the number of Aldermen change and it has the ability to show results on our cable channel.

Alderman/Chairman Harenda indicated VoteLynx has more capabilities. Sue Schaefer felt we should go with the basic system from VoteLynx. Mike Passineau indicated we should go with the basic system from VoteLynx. Alderman Hopkins felt we should look at the demo for the basis system.

Motion by Alderman/Chairman Harenda to approve the basic VoteLynx voting board with a changed price from \$20,468.33 to \$20,971.84 pending staff review and approval and the question on the Mayor's voting. Seconded by Alderman Hopkins and carried unanimously.

- Program Scheduler - \$11,825; Advanced Program Scheduler - \$10,226.19 (available in June)

The vendor recommended the Advanced Program Scheduler because the hardware was in a single unit. Alderman Hopkins indicated this would accomplish some cost savings.

Motion by Alderman Hopkins to approve the Advanced Program Scheduler at a cost of \$10,226.19. Seconded by Dave Broker and carried unanimously.

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

No action taken – City Attorney is working on this.

Networking of City Structures – Fiber Optics – Time Warner Contract

No action taken.

Review / Discussion of Previous Committee Actions

No action taken.

Responsibilities of the Communications Committee/Structure/By-Laws

No action taken.

Review City of New Berlin policies for allowing public usage of Council Chambers for meetings, this includes use of AV equipment and broadcasting capability.

Copies of the 2 Policies were given to citizen members.

USE OF CITY HALL FACILITIES – approved by Council on June 27, 1989

Alderman/Chairman Harenda indicated we must make some changes to the policies to take out the ambiguities. Discussion followed on local elected officials use of City Hall with regards Open Office Hours on Saturdays once they became a candidate. We need to define “kinds of meetings”. The policy indicates the elected officials cannot use City Hall once you are a registered candidate, which per Alderman Harenda is unfair. City Attorney indicated he felt the elected official could use the property however no campaigning should take place. Discussion followed on use by civic organizations and what groups are political or not – voter's forum, water symposium? We could add further clarification. Non-profit was discussed. Perhaps being more specific in the policy and naming Voter's Forum or information only. Charging for the facility was brought up. City Clerk Gauger indicated she checks with the Mayor prior to approving the use of the Chambers. Committee requested City Clerk check with other municipalities for such a policy.

GOVERNMENTAL ACCESS CHANNEL (CABLE) – approved by Council on October 12, 1999

After much discussion members agreed that “use” needs to be clarified so we do not violate our own policy. City Attorney will recommend changes and City Clerk to obtain other municipalities policies.

Adjourn

Motion by Dave Broker to adjourn at 6:20 PM. Seconded by Mike Passineau and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

John Hopkins, Alderman
City of New Berlin