CABLE TV COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 28, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Kobs at 5:02 p.m. in Suite 1 of the Community Plaza II building, 101 W. McMillan Street.

PRESENT: Jamieson Adler, George Holck, Mike Kobs, Brian Sauer, Alderperson Wagner and Dale Yakaites (arrived at 6:10 p.m.)
ALSO PRESENT: Public Access Coordinator Dan Kummer and Deputy Clerk Panzer
EXCUSED: Don Patterson

PUBLIC COMMENTS
None.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
CTV09-065 Motion by Holck, second by Wagner to approve the minutes of the November 23, 2009 meeting as submitted. All Ayes.
Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE
Quarterly franchise fee payment in the amount of $47,307.19 was received. This payment was late.

A letter from Charter Communications announcing the completion of its financial restructuring plan pursuant to the Chapter 11 reorganization process commenced on March 27, 2009 was received. Charter is the ultimate parent corporation of our franchise.

Charter's customers received an important provider name change and assignment notice from Charter Business along with their bill.

PUBLIC ACCESS COORDINATOR'S REPORT
Kummer presented the Public Access Coordinator's Report for December 2009. (See attached report.)

The third camera that was installed in the Council Chambers needs a hookup modification, because it is an older camera.

Public Access in Wausau is closing on January 31, 2010. The reason they are closing is because they were one of the public access stations that depended on the PEG fee, which is over and above the franchise fees. From the press release it sounded like they haven't received anything in 2009 as a PEG fee. The majority of the public access budget in Wausau came from this special fee that before Act 42 a City was able to negotiate with the Cable Company. When Act 42 came into effect there was a sunset period on that, so in three years all the PEG fees were going to go away. The franchise fees would stay, but any station that received the special PEG fee would no longer receive it in 2011.

Kummer believes the City of Wausau is entitled to their PEG fee, because Act 42 says Charter has to give the PEG fee to them until 2011.

Kummer distributed a DVD of an interview with State Representative Gary Hebl on Act 42, remediation bill. It gave an overview of what is at stake not only for public access but for the City.

The rental of public access space to the Marshfield Clinic went well. They will be coming back next month to finish their project. Another interested party has inquired about renting space.

The School Focus is up and running. Yakaites has been doing some work with Columbus.

Problems still continue with the controller.

CTV09-066 Motion by Sauer, second by Adler to receive and place on file the Public Access Coordinator's Report. All Ayes.
Motion carried

BILLS
The bills were reviewed.

CTV09-067 Motion by Wagner, second by Holck to authorize payment of the following bills as presented:

Team Distributing	$ 58.78
Menards	6.95
Telephone (City Hall)	2.14
Soundworks Systems, Inc.	146.73
Granicus, Inc. (Invoices 15488 & 15730)	1,200.00
The Tape Company (Invoices 730983 & 731108)	242.75
We Energies	14.86
Veolia	29.29
Charter Business	258.32
Trey Zahradka (Reimbursement)	13.27
Quill	119.33
Vidcom, LLC (Invoices 1600, 1601, 1602 & 1606)	3,754.75
Krier's Electric & Construction, LLC	200.00
Total	**$6,045.17**

All Ayes.
Motion carried

Deputy Clerk Panzer pointed out that the invoice total and balance due on the Veolia invoices have been different lately. She will check with the Finance Department to see if we under paid an invoice or if we are being charged for being late.

DISCUSSION ON SETTING UP A CABLE ACCESS STUDIO RENTAL RATE POLICY
Dan Kummer and Jay Holbrook are working on setting up this policy. Kummer will have information for the committee to review at the January Cable TV Committee meeting.

REPORT ON TERM OF GRANICUS CONTRACT AND DISCUSS PLAN TO REVIEW
The term of this Agreement is one (1) year, but shall automatically renew for an additional three (3) terms of one (1) year each, unless either party notifies the other in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to such automatic renewal that the party does not wish to renew this Agreement. Agreement is dated March 17, 2009. Discussion was held on the usage.

Alderperson Wagner said we are paying roughly $7,000.00 a year for Granicus and it is basically being used by the City Hall employees. He suggested giving it one more year and promoting it, so we can get the public usage up and if we can't get the public usage up than it is not worth the money. Right now the highest rated show only had about 48 viewers.

Kummer said the Internet is something that builds on time. If Granicus is marketed and people get to know what it can do, then we can get the numbers up. He believes Granicus is important for the future of public access. We don't know what the future is and internet is becoming more and more of a venue of getting programs of free speech out to the public. It is appropriate to give it more time.

Alderperson Wagner said we need to drive people to the site and get them to see it.

Kummer will have some suggestions on how we can promote it at one of our next meetings.

Kummer said the system is totally automated. The meetings are automatically recorded. They are automatically uploaded and they are automatically indexed by somebody else at Granicus and then they are automatically posted very soon, either the same night or the very next day.

Sauer figured it is costing us $1.88 every time someone logs into Granicus.

Alderperson Wagner suggested that we make a decision by July as to what we are going to do.

Kummer said he would be willing to look at other systems that are cheaper. We can also try to negotiate for a lower price when we renew.

After much discussion, the consensus was to give Granicus another year and promote it to get the public usage up and if the usage doesn't go up we terminate the contract with Granicus.

FINANCIAL REPORT
Kummer reported that we will be at or below budget at the end of the year.
CTV09-068 Motion by Adler, second by Holck to receive and place on file the financial report for the period of January 1, 2009 through November 30, 2009. All Ayes.
Motion carried

RECOMMENDED ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- Review and discuss Public Access Studio rental rate policy
- Report on Granicus contract
- Suggestions for promoting Granicus

Kummer mentioned that the lights and the ceiling in the Council Chambers may be replaced in 2010. He is working with Electrical Inspector Pokorny on this issue, so when it happens we get the lights we need above the Council people and the correct type of electrical run.

Dale Yakaites arrived at 6:10 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Common Council Chambers of City Hall that evening, so we can take a good look at the Granicus software.

Yakaites gave an update on Channel 99. Columbus is up and running now. Programs that have been done recently are Extreme Expirations video, Madrigal video, and a couple of School Focus programs. There will be a program on Prairie Day at Madison School airing soon.

Motion by Wagner, second by Holck to adjourn at 6:16 p.m. All Ayes.
Motion carried

Lori A. Panzer
Deputy City Clerk

\\mfldnt\fdrive\HOME\Minutes\Cable\CT091228.doc