

TOWN OF UXBRIDGE OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN 21 South Main Street Uxbridge, MA 01569-1851 508-278-8600

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

CABLE CONTRACT LICENSE RENEWAL LICENSE HEARING

The Uxbridge Board of Selectmen, as cable television Issuing Authority under M.G.L. c.166A, will hold an online public ascertainment hearing on Monday, March 8, 2021 at 6:30 p.m., as part of the Town's cable television license renewal process. The Uxbridge Cable Advisory Committee has provided a report to the Board of Selectmen with recommendations and information to assist in the negotiation of a new contract. The present cable contract expires in April 2021. Anyone wishing to be heard on this matter should log on to the following website.

https://uxbridge.zoom.us/j/96100907026?pwd=RWxFN3dsZmFkRktsSmkrVUI1aVRyUT09 or by phone dial 646-558-8656 meeting ID: 961 0090 7026, Passcode: 577567. Participants will be allowed to send a comment or question to the Chair via the chat function.

Respectfully submitted, Uxbridge Board of Selectmen

T&G insertion dates: February 15, February 22, 2021

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, § 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Uxbridge Board of Selectmen will be conducted live via remote participation to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided in the Order. A reminder that persons who would like to view/listen to this meeting live may do so by watching the Government Channel @ www.uxbridgetv.org or on Uxbridge Community Television Channel 191. For those unable to watch it live, you may view the recording of the meeting on the Government Channel @ http://archive.uxbridgetv.org.

UXBRIDGE CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CABLE CONTRACT REVIEW REPORT

TO: Town Manager, Steven Settee Uxbridge Board of Selectmen

The Uxbridge Cable Advisory Committee would like to present this report to the Board of Selectmen, acting as the Cable TV Licensing Authority, which will include recommendations and information which may assist the Town Manager and the Board of Selectmen in negotiations for a new contract. The present Contract expires in April of 2021.

The Cable Advisory Committee has been reviewing the present contract for the past year to find any discrepancies in the present contract and to recommend any additional action in the new contract. The committee held several meetings, including three meetings inviting the community to present information. The committee recommends the following actions.

13.4 Public, Educational and Government Access Equipment/Facilities Fund and Annual Grant

- (a) The Licensee shall provide a one-time cash payment to or for the Town's special PEG Access account or Access Designee, if so designated by the Issuing Authority in writing, in the amount of \$105,000 to be used to purchase, lease, and/or improve PEG Access equipment and facilities, payable within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the effective date of this Renewal License. This grant shall be considered as an external cost for the purposes of rate regulation and may be passed on to the Subscribers and identified as a separate line item on the subscriber's monthly statement to the extent allowed by applicable law and regulation.
- (b) For the first two years of the Renewal License, the Licensee shall provide an annual payment to the Issuing Authority or PEG Access Designee for PEG Access operations in the amount of four percent (4%) of Gross Annual Revenues directly to a special PEG Account or such account as is duly established by the Issuing Authority for PEG Access and cable-related purposes only. Beginning with the third year of this 10-Year Renewal License, the Issuing Authority, upon ninety (90) days advance written notice to the Licensee, may request an adjustment of the

annual PEG Access payment from 4% of Gross Annual Revenue to a specific amount within the range of 2.5% to 4.25% of Gross Annual Revenues. The first such annual payment shall be made no later than one hundred and twenty days (120) after the Execution date of this License. In no case shall this payment be counted against the equipment and facilities payment made pursuant to subparagraph (a) of this Section 13.4 above or against any franchise or license fee. This grant shall be considered as an external cost for the purposes of rate regulation and may be passed on to the subscribers and identified as a separate line item on the subscriber's monthly statement subject to applicable law and regulation.

(c) The Issuing Authority shall prepare an annual report for the preceding calendar year which records how the annual payment for PEG operations was spent, and what amount remained unspent at the end of the calendar year. This report shall be submitted to the Licensee annually within thirty (30) days of payment of the annual PEG grant.

The Cable Advisory Committee would like to request that we continue to receive the \$105,000 for improvements for PEG Access facilities and equipment. Also, the CAC recommends raising the percentage from 4% to 5%, the maximum amount allowed by law.

13.9 Access Coordination

- a) The Licensee shall provide, maintain and operate a fiber PEG Channel origination network, at no charge to the Town or its Access Designee. This dedicated network shall enable the upstream transmission of programming to the system headend for distribution to customers on the three PEG Access channels. The first two origination sites listed below—the Town Hall and the Community Access Center—shall be have transmitter/receivers in place and activated within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the Effective Date of this Renewal License. The third origination site—the new high school—shall have its transmitter/receiver in place and activated within ninety (90) days of the Issuing Authority providing written notice to the Licensee that the new high school has received a certificate of occupancy. The PEG origination sites will be located at: 1) the Town Hall (21 South Main Street); 2) the Community Access Center at Uxbridge High School (62 Capron Street); and 3) the new Uxbridge High School (246 Quaker Highway). In addition, at the request of the Town, the Licensee shall terminate fiber drops at the Senior Center (36 South Main Street), the Public Library (15 North Main Street) and the Fire Station (25 South Main Street).
- b) The PEG Channel origination network shall be operated in compliance with the System Technical Specifications found in FCC Part 76, Subpart K, 76.601 et seq. In the event that there are technical problems with the PEG Channel origination network, the Licensee and the Issuing Authority shall negotiate, in good faith, a resolution of any such problems, with such negotiation, if any, subject to Section 13.3(b) above, regarding Licensee's responsibility to provide, maintain and operate the PEG Channel origination network at no charge to the Town or its Access Designee. The Issuing Authority shall have the right to request a performance test of the network, should such problems persist.

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At this present time, there are three locations that DO NOT have fiber drops installed. Those three locations are;

Senior Center-36 South Main Street Fire Station-25 South Main Street Town Library-15 North Main Street

The Cable Advisory Committee, along with the Station Manager/Program Coordinator Barry Giles, are available to answer any questions that may assist the Town Manager or Licensing Authority in the negotiation process.

Sincerely,

Uxbridge Cable Advisory Committee