

MINUTES OF CABLE TELEVISION COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS
3191 Katella Avenue
Los Alamitos, California 90720

July 10, 2014

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Special meeting of the Cable Television Commission was called to order at 4:00 PM on July 10, 2014, in the Council Chambers Conference Room, 3191 Katella Avenue, Los Alamitos, Chair Tom Rothwell presiding.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Hasselbrink, Jempsa, Rothwell, Underwood

Absent: Commissioners Clayton

Present: Staff Bret Plumlee, City Manager
Catherine Howard, Police Department Secretary

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Stephen Hammond stated that the reported structural deficient for LATV is not accurate. Over the past year, Doug Wood has been paid \$20,000 for server related services, an emergency switcher was purchased for the van, \$10,000 has been paid to cover LAUSD sporting events (which includes \$6,500 from Republic), and programs involving the City should be paid for by the City, not the station. Given that, LATV realized a \$1,500 surplus last year. LATV funds pay to feed the server to load and broadcast non-current, non-local productions. His recent tour of the studio with Vice Chair Underwood confirmed that equipment upgrades are sorely needed; most of the usable equipment belongs to Vice Chair Underwood. The City should pay to upgrade LATV Studio 1 equipment. Programs need to generate revenue to support LATV operations.

City Council Member Dean Grose said he would like to speak in an unofficial capacity (not as a council member) that the Cable Commission is lacking direction from the Council. The Cable Commission has no authority to spend money, however, monthly, they should review funds received and spent. The Cable Commission should be more assertive with the Council regarding goals, expectations and direction. Given Mr. Larry Strawther's resignation, decisions need to be made and prioritized about whom will broadcast upcoming LAUSD sporting events, which resume in less than sixty days; the booster clubs and parents have expectations that these events will be covered.

Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Strawther's resignation, which was news to some commissioners.

Vice Chair Underwood said he had spoken briefly with Mr. Strawther about this.

Commissioner Hasselbrink stated that if Vice Chair Underwood knew about this resignation, he should have informed the City Manager and the other commissioners.

Commissioner Jempsa said that, regardless, decisions had to be made about how to move forward to cover LAUSD's sporting and special events.

City Manager Plumlee replied that he had had no formal confirmation of Mr. Strawther's resignation; he will contact him to substantiate the rumor and report back to the commission.

4 PRESENTATIONS

None

5. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes for the Cable Television Commission meeting of May 8, 2014.

MOTION: Hasselbrink/Jempsa

Motion unanimously carried to approve the May 8, 2014 Cable Television Commission meeting minutes.

Ayes: Hasselbrink, Jempsa, Rothwell, Underwood

Nays: None

Absent: Clayton

Abstain: None

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. Request for Equipment Purchases for LATV Studio 1

Vice Chair Underwood provided an explanation of his third request to upgrade LATV Studio 1 equipment. If he is to accommodate various requests coming from the community to produce, or help to produce, programming to showcase their organizations, the studio must have new equipment. He provided a detailed account of each item on his equipment request list. At this time, there is only one functioning camera at LATV and even that is an old technology analog. This list is a realistic, yet modest request of equipment upgrades to conform to the FCC mandated digital technology.

Commissioner Hasselbrink stated that the commission has been discussing studio upgrades during her entire year tenure and, most recently, discussing the merits of increasing LATV viewership by modernizing the broadcasting capabilities; she

requested that the commission work together to send the City Council a dual request to modernize both studio production quality and webcasting capabilities.

Commissioner Jempsa voiced her full support for Vice Chair Underwood's equipment upgrade list, but expressed hesitation about including a request to pursue web-streaming capabilities, citing an article in the paper about complications over licensing fees and other legal issues.

Commissioner Hasselbrink restated that her request is not to spend money now, but to seek Council review and approval to release funding to be able to pursue modernizing the studio equipment and broadcasting capabilities; her request is simply to seek approval to begin the RFP procurement process.

City Manager Plumlee stated that Council has directed staff to follow up on several budget related items over the first two quarters of this fiscal year. Within this request, he will be submitting to Council a comprehensive overview of the Cable Commission, the studio and van operations, funding issues and needs, etc. If the commission approves the requests to upgrade the equipment in the studio, that could be incorporated in his report to the Council.

MOTION: Hasselbrink/

Motion to present requests to City Council for review and approval of two items: Item 1 to modernize studio operations, not to exceed \$39,500; and, Item 2 to modernize broadcasting and streaming ability, not to exceed an initial set-up of \$3,500 and an annual maintenance cost of \$2,000.

MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF A SECOND

Chair Rothwell reopened Public Comments.

Mr. Grose suggested that the requests should be sent for Council awareness, and then staff could be directed to research possible options for webcast streaming. A Cal State student might be engaged to research streaming options. He encouraged the commission to present their requests as soon as possible.

SECOND MOTION: Hasselbrink/Rothwell

Motion to bring studio modernization to the City Council for approval of funding; and, bring broadcast modernization to Council, and then direct staff to pursue further research at the earliest opportunity.

MOTION FAILED TO PASS

Ayes: Hasselbrink, Rothwell
Nays: Jempsa, Underwood
Absent: Clayton
Abstain: None

Vice Chair Underwood asked Council Member Grose to clarify how the Council views specific requests. City Manager Plumlee commented that this discussion is not applicable here.

THIRD MOTION: Jempsa/Underwood

Motion passed unanimously to present equipment list to Council for consideration and approval for a cost not to exceed \$39,500.

Ayes: Hasselbrink, Jempsa, Rothwell, Underwood
Nays: None
Absent: Clayton
Abstain: None

FOURTH MOTION: Hasselbrink/Underwood

Motion passed unanimously to bring the request to City Council for staff to further research live streaming for LATV.

Ayes: Hasselbrink, Jempsa, Rothwell, Underwood
Nays: None
Absent: Clayton
Abstain: None

B. Discussion of City's Franchise Agreement with Consolidated Disposal

City Manager Plumlee clarified that the \$6,500 item incorporated in the franchise agreement with Republic, is a contractual agreement related to filming events in the City. Republic has the final determination of which events are included.

Recommendation to Receive and File was approved.

***** END STAFF REPORTS *****

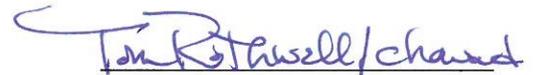
7. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Vice Chair Underwood offered to assist with sports broadcasting.

8. ADJOURNMENT

At 5:41 PM, the Cable Television Commission meeting was adjourned.

The next regular meeting of the Cable Television Commission is scheduled for Thursday, August 14, 2014, at 4 PM, in the City Council Chambers Conference Room.


Tom Rothwell, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Bret Plumlee, City Manager