

Thursday, September 27, 2012

1. **Call to Order** – 7:04 p.m.
2. **Roll call** – Present – Russ Moulton, Tom Gregory, Chris Zaffram, Skip Surette
Also present was the President of Milestone Communications, Mr. Len Fortas; three citizens, Bob Mele, Jonathan Platt, and Nicholas Platt; provider reps Susan Rodgers of Cox Communications, Rich Hillstrom of Verizon, and Marie Schuler of Comcast; and Stafford County staff members Shannon Howell, Paul Carrano, and Jason Hill.
3. **Presentation by Milestone Communications**
 - Based in Reston, Milestone specializes in partnering with local government to build wireless towers on public property and share in the revenue. Milestone approached Stafford County several years ago. Milestone is very interested in working with the County and with the Telecommunications Commission.
 - Right now, carriers are going from 3G to 4G LTE (Long Term Evolution), which will increase speed and capacity but will require some network improvements. The new equipment takes up twice as much space as the old equipment. Standards for the weight load on towers have changed. Verizon has completed their LTE in Stafford. AT&T, Sprint and T-Mobile have not. Milestone has over 700 locations for future development. They currently manage Fairfax public schools, generating \$1.5 million in recurring revenue that is growing at 3% every year.
 - Milestone states that it will take care of all the expense in building the tower. They split net revenue with the public entity 50-50, (gross net 40 percent for public entity, and 50 percent for Milestone). It costs \$20,000 to build a tower. Each additional carrier pays a lease. The average 10-year income per tower is \$400,000. The agreement is a non-exclusive contract for 40 years.
4. **Presentation by Stafford County Information Technology (IT)**
 - County staff displayed the requested additions to the webpage. Paul Carrano, of IT, explained that the County website is a content management system run by an outside vendor, CivicPlus. He explained that everything his department does on the website is within the confines of that system. Some features are not available to them. To that end, IT created a database for entering citizen issues. All entries prior to the database creation have been entered into the database now.

Presentations by the Public

- Mr. Moulton asked the provider reps if they have any updates on any citizen requests for service.
- Providers each made a report.
- A citizen, Robert Mele, lives on Kinsley Lane in Kings Leigh Estates. He moved there June 1, 2012. He says he used the formula to calculate HPLM and came up with 23 houses according to where Comcast has the last point of service. He couldn't do it for

Verizon because he couldn't find their last point of service. He said everyone in his neighborhood needs internet. There are people who work for the FBI, DEA, DOD, Homeland Security and there are students. He thanked the TCC for their time.

- Mr. Jonathan Platt and his son Nicholas spoke next. They live on Kinsley Lane. Comcast service is right behind his backyard.
- Ms. Schuler said the difficulty is where the box is. It's further back where the service ends. Comcast calculated that it would require 1.2 miles of infrastructure. Comcast says they only see 15 homes on Kinsley Lane.
- Mr. Moulton said if he doesn't fall within the franchise agreement, he should do the business plan.

5. Approval of August Minutes

- Mr. Gregory motioned to accept the minutes. Mr. Surette seconded it. The vote was unanimous, 4-0.

6. Agenda Additions/Adjustments

- None

7. Old Business

- Mr. Moulton has two old business items Danielle Davis brought before the TCC. The question was previously asked of County Attorney if members could send corrections to meetings via email without it being considered public business for the purposes of FOIA. The County Attorney's office said they could. The TCC also asked if they could restrict the release of citizen information gathered via the website to certain businesses who submitted FOIA requests. County Attorney said no.

8. New business

- Mr. Moulton would like to ask the commission to endorse the concept of the draft agreement from Milestone.
- Mr. Gregory made a motion for the TCC to recommend that the Board of Supervisors act expediently to enter into the marketing agreement with Milestone Communications as presented to the TCC.
- Mr. Moulton asked for a second.
- Mr. Zaffram seconded.
- Mr. Moulton asked for discussion.
- Mr. Gregory said he thought it was very important for the TCC to exercise the authority to recommend to enter into things to improve telecommunications.
- Mr. Moulton asked for any other discussion.
- Mr. Gregory made a motion that they advance to the Stafford County School Board the same thing we advanced to the Board of Supervisors.
- It was properly seconded and passed 4-0.
- Mr. Gregory said, "I recommend we recognize Comcast and the appreciation of the TCC to Marie Schuler and Comcast for their extraordinary help and support to the Stafford Technology and Research Center."
- Mr. Zaffram seconded. The vote was unanimous at 4-0.

9. Mr. Moulton made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Mr. Gregory and was approved unanimously, 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.