



## Town of Hudson - Cable Television Committee

Meet at 7:30PM, first Tuesday of the month in the Town Hall 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conf Room

A = Absent P = Present	7-Jan	21-Jan	4-Mar	17-Jun	7-Oct	2-Dec	8-Apr					
Andy Vickery	P	P	P	P	P	P						
Elaine Baly	A	P	A	A	P	A						
Jose Cabral	A	A	P	P	P	P						
Tim McCoy	P	P	P	P	P	A						
Tony Ippolito	A	A	P	P	P	P	E					
Official Meeting (with quorum)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						

### Meeting Minutes from 02-Dec-2003

- Meeting started at 7:35PM with voting quorum.
- Barbara Kansky, Hudson resident and cable subscriber was present at the meeting.
- Reviewed and approved the minutes from the previous meeting on 07/10/03.
- BOS has approved the \$4,327 to be used for the HHS TV Studio operating funds.
- Intel has considered providing the HHS TV Studio with a grant for the purchase of four Intel based computer systems to be used for video editing. Andy and Scott are now working to complete and submit the Intel grant application.
- Based on the expectation of the grant approval by Intel the committee voted to rescind the pending vote from the previous meeting regarding capital equipment purchases for the HHS TV Studio. We will request that Scott comes back to the committee with any capital requests after the grant from Intel has been officially approved.
- Committee discussed complaints from the community regarding rate increases for 2004 that have been published this week by Comcast.
  - Barbara Kansky 978-568-1234 was present at the meeting and voiced her concerns over the rate increase. Barbara had called Comcast and was told by an employee that the *"town did not negotiate a good deal with Comcast"*.
  - Mary Egan 978-568-1885 called Andy at home to voice her concerns.
  - David Stoll 978-562-5105 called Andy at home to voice his concerns.
  - Selectman Tony Loura called Andy at home to discuss concerns that had been raised to him by residents of the town.
  - In 2004 the price for basic cable service in Maynard will increase from \$11.16 to \$11.75 per month, an increase of 5%. However, in Hudson the price for the same service will increase from \$11.16 to \$17.05 per month, an increase of 52%.
  - The franchise fee in Hudson is currently \$0.15 per month and will increase to \$3.42 in 2004, a whopping 2180% increase.
  - Andy will follow up with Comcast to get an explanation regarding the differences in price between Hudson/Maynard and also to understand the increase in franchise fees.
- Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:35PM.

Next Meeting on Tuesday April 6<sup>th</sup> @7:30PM

### **Agenda for Next Meeting on 06-April-2004**

- Meeting minutes to be approved from 02-Dec-2003 meeting.
- Frustration with Comcast lack of timely response to the town BOS and rate increases were discussed at the BOS meeting on 05-April.
- Comcast provided documentation detailing the breakdown of Hudson FRC for the Comcast TV studio. Can we determine if these charges are valid?
- Tim checked with the MCTD POC, the next Comcast rate order filing is scheduled for October 2004 with rate hearings in the winter.
- The Intel grant that Andy & Scott applied for has been approved. Intel provided a grant to the HHS TV studio in the amount of \$14,243 for the purchase of new Intel architecture computers for the HudTV studio.
- Review HHS request for funding TV studio operator position for 2004/2005 school year.
- Andy submitted the annual town report on behalf of the committee.
- The RTPi channel is no longer free a-la-carte offering. Review letter from Tim to Comcast.
- Review letter to Don Richards from committee that was drafted by Tim.

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