

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
CABLE FRANCHISE TRANSFER HEARING
AUGUST 8, 2005
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM**

Board of Selectmen
Members Present: Janet G. Stanton, *Chairman*
David D. Macy

Staff Present: Beverly Gilbert, Recording Secretary

Present: Peter M. Taubkin, Time Warner Cable – Vice President
Government Relations & Public Affairs – Albany Division

Gerry Buckley, Adelphia - Regional Director of
Government Affairs

Carmen Cefolo, Adelphia - Outside Consultant

At 8:30PM, Chairman Stanton announced the beginning of the Public Hearing for Time Warner / Adelphia Application for assignment and Change Of Control of The Cable Television License and read the notice:

In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 166A, Section 7 and 207 CMR 4.01 et. seq., a public hearing will be held on the applications for assignment and change of control of the existing cable television license for the Town of Sheffield. The license will be transferred from an indirect subsidiary of Adelphia Communications Corporation to Time Warner Cable, Inc. The applications for assignment and change of control are available for public inspection during regular business hours at Town Hall and at the Massachusetts Cable Television Division at One South Station, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02110. The issuing authority has been asked to consider the desirability of approving the proposed assignment of license and change of control based on the managerial, technical, financial and legal ability of Time Warner to operate the cable system pursuant to Adelphia's existing license. The hearing will be held at 8:30PM on Monday, August 8, 2005 at Town Hall, 21 Depot St., Sheffield, MA 01257. Residents and municipal officials are invited to attend.

Discussion was put on hold until arrival of Gerry Buckley of Adelphia and Peter Taubkin of Time Warner Cable. At 8:52 discussion ensued.

Chairman Stanton asked if Time Warner Cable will honor the town's cable contract (Century Berkshire Cable, License holder – Adelphia). Peter Taubkin stated that as required by law, Time Warner Cable will uphold the town's contact.

Selectman Macy expressed his concern re: Adelphia's poor customer service and lack of response to complaints. Peter Taubkin stated that customer service is a top priority and focus

and that hopefully Time Warner's record will continue to speak to their ability to deliver quality customer service. In addition, Selectman Macy conveyed his concerns about Tenant 13 reception, and signal problems. Mr. Taubkin stated that he thinks having access to a cable plant in Pittsfield, and feeding signals via fiber optic will eliminate some of the issues.

Selectman Macy asked how the change of control would impact subscribers. Peter Taubkin stated that for the time being, services will remain the same. However, in the near future (unspecified timeframe) Time Warner would want to integrate products/services (for instance, digital phone) and offer them to their customers.

Selectman Macy asked if Time Warner has looked at Sheffield's system. Mr. Taubkin stated that this is not done until the changeover occurs but then their first priority will be to do so.

Chairman Stanton expressed her preference to receive Hartford, Springfield, and Boston television news stations over the New York regions. Mr. Taubkin explained that television station negotiations/contracts determine the regions/cities/states they are carried, and this is something the change over will not influence. According to Mr. Taubkin, Time Warner will provide Capital News 9 channel – a 24 hours station exclusively for Berkshire County news.

No actions were taken at this Public Hearing.

At 9:05PM, Chairman Stanton closed the hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Gilbert,
Recording Secretary
Approved on August 22, 2005