

Minutes of the Utility Line Undergrounding Study Committee
Of the City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado
Held on Thursday, October 16, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.
At the Village Center

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present at the meeting were the following Utility Line Undergrounding Study Committee Members: Earl Hoellen and David Wyman.

Present at the meeting were the following City Council Advisors: Councilor Alex Brown.

Present at the meeting were the following staff members: Jay Goldie, Public Works Director; Troy Carmann, City Engineer; Marcus McAskin, Assistant City Attorney; and Emily Kropf, Special Projects Coordinator.

Absent were Mayor Pro Tem Russell Stewart and Committee Members Andy Love, John Love, Dan Lynch, Susan Maguire and Paul Stewart.

AGENDA ITEMS

Arthur Ortegon, Regulatory/Government Affairs, Comcast

Mr. Ortegon stated that there are several cable providers in the Village, including CenturyLink, Dish Network and DishZero. Comcast offer competitive pricing and invests in its infrastructure as it doubles its capacity every 18 months. Comcast currently has a fiber optic infrastructure installed in the City with coaxial cable to the home. He added that Comcast would like to be a long-term partner to the City.

Councilor Brown described the purpose of the Committee and stated that the City might install a fiber optic infrastructure at the same time as undergrounding to provide an additional benefit to residents. The Committee has met with representatives from Xcel, CenturyLink, Centennial, Longmont and private providers and has found that the industry is constantly changing, which can be challenging.

Mr. Ortegon replied that Comcast is interested in being involved in the process and available to the Committee and the community.

Councilor Brown asked if Comcast would be able to provide high definition equipment for broadcast of Channel 22, which is still using analog.

Mr. David Krook, Field Operations with Comcast, stated that he could look into it and get back to the City.

Committee Member Wyman asked if Comcast's system is close to capacity because he has experienced slow speeds at home.

Mr. Krook said the existing network should provide fast service. He added that it may be a localized issue and that he would look into it.

Committee Member Wyman asked if it would be possible to get fiber directly to each home instead of coaxial cable.

Mr. Krook replied that the coaxial cable can provide up to 105 megabits, which should be an adequate speed for most home owners.

Councilor Brown asked if it would be possible to install a wireless system from the fiber to the home. He also asked if there could be a security issue as a result.

Mr. Krook responded that in some hot spot scenarios it might be possible. He added that there is not a security issue as the home owner would only be able to access the IP address.

Mr. Carmann asked why some of Comcast's lines are located in neighborhoods.

Mr. Krook said that some of the lines might have been added to the existing infrastructure based on service needs.

Mr. Ortegon added that Comcast will take advantage of any open streets in order to avoid disturbing the same area again in a few years.

Mr. Goldie asked what the average cost is to install conduit and fiber.

Mr. Krook replied that the average cost per linear foot for trenching is \$8 and directional boring is \$13. This does not include the cost of materials. One mile of work might range from \$35,000 to \$50,000.

Mr. McAskin asked what Comcast's penetration rate is in the City.

Mr. Krook responded 65% to 75%

Mr. McAskin asked what percentage of Comcast's lines is aboveground.

Mr. Krook replied that 70% to 80% of Comcast's entire infrastructure is underground. He does not know the exact percentage for the City but will provide that information.

Mr. Goldie asked if Comcast's easements are written for above or belowground.

Mr. Krook said that it varies, and Comcast follows whatever is written for each individual easement.

Draft Interim Report Discussion

Councilor Brown asked the Committee to send any revisions of the draft interim report to Ms. Kropf. He added that the report will be presented to Council in November or December.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 a.m.