



# CITY OF GERMANTOWN TENNESSEE

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## **Germantown Telecommunications Commission Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 11, 2009**  
**Administrative Conference Room – 6:00P.M**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tony Fischer - Chairman, Jack Parnell – Vice Chairman, Rik Ditter, Glen Murry and Rodney McKelroy,

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Bill Brody, Sandra Abel, Donna Chandler Newman and Danish Siddiqui

**PRESENT BMA LIASON:** Alderman Ernest Chism

**PRESENT STAFF LIASON:** Andy Pouncey, Asst City Administrator  
Josh Whitehead, Planning Division Director  
Stephanie Logan, Technical Services Coordinator  
Wade Morgan, Chief Planner

**PRESENT NON MEMBERS:** Frank Bluestein, GHS-TV Executive Director  
Jon Hoag, GHS-TV Co-General Manager  
Luke Driver, GHS-TV Co-General Manager

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Fischer called the March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Telecommunications Commission to order at 6.04pm. A roll call was conducted and a quorum was established.

**\*\*MOTION\*\***

### **MINUTES**

Chairman Fischer called for the approval of the February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Telecommunications Commission Minutes. Jack Parnell made a motion, seconded by Rik Ditter, to approve. The Motion passed unanimously.

### **UTILITY ORDINANCE**

Andy Pouncey began his overview of the handouts sent to Commission Members. He reviewed each handout in turn. He spoke about the Ordinance changes and went through the memo regarding the utility cabinets. Josh Whitehead clarified that the City will now regulate cable and phone boxes with the new Ordinance. Members initiated a discussion regarding the utility boxes in various parts of the City.

## **Telecommunications Commission**

**March 11, 2009**

**Page 2**

### **COMCAST REPORT**

10,053 Comcast cable subscribers for February 2008

- Down 65 subscribers from January 2009
- Down 344 subscribers from February 2008

Mr. Brandon summarized the rest of his report.

Members initiated a discussion regarding the new digital boxes.

### **GHS-TV REPORT**

Frank Bluestein stated the February 2009 monthly statistics for GHS-TV: GHS-TV cablecast 744 hours of monthly programming, 70 non-repeat local and national television shows cablecast. The number of television shows produced locally by GHS-TV for the 2008/2009 season was 234. Total number of shows taped for February was 41.

GHS-TV has produced 70 Access Together Projects in total for the season and will have produced 100 by the end of the season.

The total combined cash balance was \$290,406.25

### **AREAS OF CONCERN**

Collierville and Germantown High Schools are interested in a joint programming venture with Comcast to link together and broadcast each other's programs.

Low Power FM Press Release – Frank had a sample of a Resolution allowing FCC. Chairman Fischer asked Frank to send him a copy and then he would disperse to Commission Members. They will then review, make comments and submit to the BMA from the Commission as a recommendation.

Frank gave an overview of the political reasoning for the delay in the approval of the release for the Low Power Stations.

He also thanked Otha and Comcast for the three hours on Channel 3 for the GHS-TV Auction. He commented that it was very helpful. The Auction did very well. They were still pulling in the numbers and waiting for Sandra Abel to give a full report. Hopefully they should end up with approximately \$43,000.

The funding request for GHS-TV – the letter has been drafted from Commission Members and GHS-TV and is awaiting submission.

Frank clarified their request for funding. Chairman Fischer clarified that if funds were in excess of amounts needed, the remaining amount will be applied to future funding requests.

**Telecommunications Commission**

**March 11, 2009**

**Page 3**

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Stephanie Logan began the monthly IT update. The Telecommunication Sub-committee gathered twice to discuss disaster recovery with the SunGard Public Sector, a work order system and upgrade options.

Work continues on the Police Control Center – The jail processing center is scheduled to move back to its original location next week.

Forest Hill Irene Fire Station IV – just beginning the upgrade.

Police electronic ticketing is nearing completion with a refresher course for officers via a web-training scheduled that week.

Court data conversion is proceeding with the third phase scheduled to commence late spring with data conversion into the new court software.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\*MOTION\*\***

Chairman Fischer called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Glen Murry made a motion, seconded by Rodney McKelroy. Motion passed unanimously.