

## HAMPTON MUNICIPAL COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY BOARD

MINUTES 08/12/2014

Meeting was called to order on 08/12 at 5:31 pm in Hampton City Council Chambers. In attendance were Jeff Christiansen, James Kent and Wade Nasheim. Pat Palmer and Michael Barnes were absent. City Manager Ron Dunt was in attendance.

Public Comment: None.

Old Business:

- The meeting minutes from 6/10/14 were summarized and approved. The motion carries with all in favor.

New Business:

- The agenda was modified to include a brief discussion about the broadband interest survey and IAMU broadband webinar discussion. The revised agenda was approved with all in favor.
- The first three Community Broadband Webinars were held and are available to download at any time.
- Nothing from IAMU on budgetary pricing.
- HMCUB next steps, described in the agenda as:
  - Proceed with the directive of building a municipal utility.
  - Discontinue efforts by the board because of lack of support for a municipal utility.
  - Continue with information gathering until a definitive direction can be obtained.
- The Board's opinion is:
  - Nasheim's opinion is that the Industrial Park is nearly full and growing, and has not seen barriers from broadband availability. While dissatisfied with the available options in Hampton for telecom providers, he does not think that it is in the best interest of the city to pursue a municipal communication utility at this time.
  - Kent's opinion is that the Board lacks the driving force and funding to pursue the municipal communication utility at this time and that evolving technologies in broadband, and the capability of current providers to increase service quickly, were threats to the potential profitability of a city owned broadband service.
  - Christiansen's opinion is that there aren't any great options available for the Board to build a plan for a municipal communications utility at this time.
- If The Board chooses to submit an application for the Federal under served broadband grant, the deadline is 10/14.

- Christiansen will email Dumont Telephone to determine a brief synopsis of what they envision as a “partnership” with the City of Hampton.
- CenturyLink had a representative at the meeting who said that they have DSL in the Industrial Park, which can provide faster broadband access than what most businesses currently have available. They are installing fiber in many areas in northern Iowa, so it’s likely that it will be in the Industrial Park soon.

Without The Board having a clear path forward, they have chosen to decrease the frequency of the meetings, with the intention of re-evaluating the current telecom business climate at the future meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm. The next meeting date will be determined at a later time.