

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR
AND THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE OF
THE CITY OF EAST MOLINE, ILLINOIS
MONDAY, MAY 18, 2020**

ROLL CALL

Mayor Freeman called the meeting to order and directed City Clerk Arletta D. Holmes to call the roll. The following Aldermen were present: Larry Toppert, Gary Almblade, Nancy Mulcahey, Jayne O'Brien, Frederic Kotoku, Maria Tapia and Jose Rico. **6:45 p.m.**

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA

None.

MetroNet Non-Exclusive Franchise Agreement (DougMaxeiner, City Administrator)

MetroNet has approached the Cities of Rock Island, Moline and East Moline about constructing a fiber optic network through the majority of each community in order to provide communications, video and traditional cable programming on a subscription basis. The company is nearing completion of the buildout of a similar system in Davenport and Bettendorf and is looking to get started on the Illinois side within the next few months.

Attached is a draft, non-exclusive franchise agreement with MetroNet spelling out the terms and conditions under which the work of the utility would proceed in the East Moline right-of-way. Additional staff comments are included which will be forwarded to MetroNet for their consideration and addition to the franchise agreement.

A public hearing is scheduled for June 1, 2020. Following completion of the public hearing, the City Council will be asked to consider and approve a form of the franchise agreement so the project may move forward. Staff believes the additional services offered to residents and the business community will make East Moline a better place to work and live.

FINANCIAL:

This is not a budgeted item.

This is not a CIP

Mr. Maxeiner - introduced Ms. Kathy Scheller of MetroNet. Ms. Scheller will be presenting a presentation regarding how MetroNet would be beneficial to the City of East Moline.

Quality of Life

- Reliably-fast broadband allowing simultaneous streaming
- Distance learning
- Tele-commuting

Future Proof

- Virtually unlimited capacity

Latest Technology

- Ready for 4K TV
- Increased video streaming

Increase Home Value

- Increase by 3.1% due to fiber connection

Competition

- Incredible fiber service
- Better customer service
- Competitive pricing

Exclusive Access

- Only 20% of the homes in the United States have access to fiber

Fastest Internet

- MetroNet markets have the fastest average internet speeds

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the draft franchise agreement and sending the agreement to the City Council meeting on June 1, 2020 for consideration.

A motion was made by Alderman Rico, seconded by Alderman Kotoku to concur with the recommendation as presented. Upon roll call the following voted in favor: Rico, Toppert, Almlade, Mulcahey, O’Brien, Kotoku and Tapia. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Alderman Almlade, seconded by Alderman Rico, to adjourn the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting. Upon roll call the following voted in favor: Rico, Toppert, Almlade, Mulcahey, O’Brien, Kotoku and Tapia. Motion carried. **7:15 p.m.**

Minutes taken and submitted

Arletta D Holmes, City Clerk