

**Public Hearing
Cable Franchise Fee Renewal
April 28, 2016**

The North Middleton Township Supervisors held a public hearing for the Cable Franchise Fee Renewal on April 28, 2016 at the Township Municipal Building, 2051 Spring Road, Carlisle PA. Vice Chairman Harry Kelso called the public hearing to order at 6:00 pm. Board members present were Supervisor Robert Reisinger, Supervisor Pat McDowell, Supervisor David Smith, Solicitor Mark Allshouse, Manager Deborah Ealer, Police Chief Doug Reitz and Recording Secretary Lori Coleman. Chairman Jim Hare was not in attendance. Visitors: See April 28, 2016 attendance sheet.

Supervisor Kelso said this was a public hearing of the Township Board of Supervisors regarding cable franchise renewal for the Township of North Middleton. The public hearing is held pursuant to Section 626 of the federal Cable Act, which sets forth the process for franchise renewal. The Township's current franchise with Comcast will expire in the near term, and the Township is beginning the process of renewing the franchise. This public hearing is part of the preliminary portion of franchise renewal in which the Township reviews the cable operator's past performance and identifies the Township's future cable-related community needs. As such, as part of this public hearing, the board invited comments from any citizens who wish to speak regarding either or both of the aforementioned subjects. The franchise renewal is the best opportunity for municipalities to assert their rights with respect to their cable operator and to obtain important benefits in return to granting the cable operator the right to use their public rights-of-way. The benefits include: a state-of-the-art cable system now and in the future, strong customer service standards, free services to community facilities, better reporting requirements from the cable operators, maximized franchise fees, franchise grants, an educational and governmental (EG) channel, legal protections of the rights-of-way and better mechanisms to enforce the franchise agreement. Supervisor Kelso added these are just some of the potential benefits available through franchise renewal.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Supervisor Reisinger asked how much the township would receive. Ms. Ealer did not have the exact figures available, but added subscribership has decreased Supervisor Kelso asked if the numbers were based on usage of the different services. Ms. Ealer said she would provide the information at the next meeting. Thus, Supervisor Reisinger moved to forward with the Comcast Cable Franchise Fee Renewal process, and Supervisor Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting was closed at 6:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Ealer
Township Secretary

Lori Coleman
Recording Secretary