ITEM #6 Consider Approval of Community Access Preservation (CAP) Act Resolution

Leslie Helwig, Community Relations Director, made the presentation. This resolution supports bill HR 3745, which would amend the Communications Act of 1934 to allow for the carriage and display of public, educational, and government (PEG) channels in a manner consistent with commercial channels. It would also give local communities greater control in the use of PEG revenue.

MOTION by Roncelli and SUPPORT by Barnett to APPROVE the Community Access Preservation (CAP) Act Resolution.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, currently pending before Congress is HR 3745 (Baldwin), which would establish the Community Access Preservation (CAP) Act; and

WHEREAS, the CAP Act would amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for carriage and display of public, educational and governmental (PEG) channels without additional charges, and via channels whose quality, accessibility, functionality and placement is consistent with commercial channels; and

WHEREAS, the CAP Act would preserve PEG channels and the much needed funding for PEG facilities and operations, and ensure that the channels continue to be available to the entire community; and

WHEREAS, the CAP Act would provide important solutions for critical and immediate financial needs of PEG channels and facilities by unrestricting the use of PEG franchise fees for any PEG related purpose; and

WHEREAS, if this legislation is enacted, the Charter Township of Bloomfield would have financial flexibility in the use of its PEG fee revenues; and

WHEREAS, the CAP Act would require the Federal Communications Commission to submit a report to Congress relative to the impact of state video service franchising laws on PEG cable systems and channels since 2005; and
WHEREAS, in states that have enacted state level franchising laws since May 31, 2005, the CAP Act would require each cable operator to continue to provide financial and infrastructure support and channel capacity based on the support historically provided by the cable operator; and

WHEREAS, the CAP Act ensures technological neutrality by applying PEG requirements to all landline video service providers, regardless of the transmission protocol.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Charter Township of Bloomfield does hereby SUPPORT HR 3745, which would establish the Community Access Preservation (CAP) Act and amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for carriage and display of public, educational, and governmental (PEG) channels in a manner consistent with commercial channels, and for other purposes.

AYES: Barnett, Buckley, Devine, Kepes, Payne, Roncelli, Savoie
NAYS: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

I, JANET M. RONCELLI, TOWNSHIP CLERK of the Charter Township of Bloomfield, County of Oakland, Michigan, do hereby certify the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at their regular meeting held on June 28, 2010.

JANET M. RONCELLI, CMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK