# BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD INDEX TO THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF JULY 6, 2021

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## BOROUGH OF EDGEWOOD MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING HELD JULY 6, 2021

Council President Wainright called the meeting of the Borough of Edgewood to order at 7:30 pm.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Upon roll call, the following responded: Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Gleba, Mr. Love, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Wainright, and Ms. Yaney. Mayor Jack Wilson, Manager Rob Zahorchak, and Solicitor Tim Barry were also present. Dr. Petrolla arrived at 7:33 pm. Junior Councilperson Berman was absent.

#### **PLEDGE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Wainright opened the public hearing by delivering the following remarks:

This is a public hearing of the Borough Council regarding cable franchise renewal for the Borough of Edgewood. This public hearing is held pursuant to Section 626 of the federal Cable Act, which sets forth the process for franchise renewal. The Borough's current franchise with Comcast will expire soon, and the Borough is beginning the process of renewing the franchise.

This public hearing is part of the preliminary portion of franchise renewal in which the Borough reviews the cable operator's past performance and identifies the Borough's future cable-related community needs. As such, as part of this public hearing, we invite comments from any citizens who wish to speak regarding either or both of the aforementioned subjects.

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 for granting the cable operator the right to use their public rights-of-way. These benefits include:

- 1. A State-of-the-Art Cable System now and in the future;
- 2. Strong Customer Service Standards;
- 3. Detailed Reporting Requirements from the Cable Operator;
- 4. Maximized Franchise Fees;
- 5. Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) Channel(s) (if desired);
- 6. PEG Capital Support Funding (where applicable);
- 7. Legal Protections of the Rights-of-Way; and
- 8. Better Mechanisms to Enforce the Franchise Agreement.

These are just some of the potential benefits available through franchise renewal. Citizens may address these items or any other cable-related items that are important to them. We will now open the hearing up to citizen comments. Thank you.

### **ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR:** No comments were received.

M-1 It was moved by Mr. Fuller and seconded by Mr. O'Donnell to adjourn at 7:37 pm.The aye vote on the motion was unanimous. Motion carried.

Rob Zahorchak, Borough Manager

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