

Introduced: Ms. Davis
First Reading: October 15, 2019
Passed: October 28, 2019
Posted: October 30, 2019
Effective: October 28, 2019

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2078

A RESOLUTION COMMENCING RENEWAL PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE FEDERAL CABLE COMMUNICATIONS POLICY ACT OF 1984 AND CONFIRMING AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT PROCEEDINGS AND TO TAKE SUCH ACTIONS AS ARE APPROPRIATE TO COLLECT INFORMATION AND OTHERWISE COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE FEDERAL CABLE COMMUNICATIONS POLICY ACT OF 1984

WHEREAS, the City of Greenbelt, Maryland (City) granted a franchise to provide cable television service to Verizon Maryland Inc. (franchise) pursuant to the Cable Communications Franchise Agreement between the City and franchise, made and entered into on January 8, 2007 (the Franchise Agreement); and

WHEREAS, by its terms, the Franchise Agreement, as amended, is scheduled to expire on or about January 8, 2022; and

WHEREAS, by letter from the franchisee to the City dated May 23, 2019, and received by the City on May 28, 2019, the franchise requested that the City commence renewal proceedings in accordance with Section 626(a) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 (Cable Act) and, at the same time, expressed its view that the informal renewal process set forth in Section 626(h) of the Cable Act may be preferable for all concerned; and

WHEREAS, Section 626(a) of the Cable Act provides that during the 6-month period which begins with the 36th month before franchise expiration, a cable operator may request a franchising authority to commence certain proceedings relating to determining whether to renew a cable franchise; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated May 23, 2019, the franchisee has requested the City to commence such proceedings; and

WHEREAS, the City is desirous of commencing such proceedings pursuant to Section 626(a) of the Cable Act and, at the same time, of also considering the possibility of pursuing the informal renewal process with the franchisee pursuant to Section 626(h) of the Cable Act; and

WHEREAS, the City must provide the public with notice of and an opportunity to participate in proceedings under Section 626(a) of the Cable Act, and such proceedings may involve the collection and analysis of information from the franchisee, the public and other interested parties

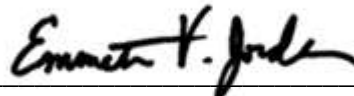
and may require a series of public hearings; and

WHEREAS; the City desires that such proceedings be conducted through the office of the City Manager and intends to authorize the City Manager to take such steps as are required to comply with all the requirements of the Cable Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND, THAT:

1. The City hereby commences renewal proceedings pursuant to Section 626(a) of the Cable Act.
2. The City Manager or her designee, is authorized to conduct proceedings in accordance with Section 626(a) of the Cable Act, and to negotiate with the franchise concerning matters relating to franchise renewal.
3. The City Manager or her designee, is authorized to establish procedures and dates for conduct of any hearings related to the Section 626(a) proceeding and to establish procedures and dates for submission of testimony and other information in connection with the proceeding.
4. The City Manager or her designee, is authorized to request the franchisee to submit such information as may be deemed appropriate in connection with the proceeding, to gather such other information from other persons or sources as may be deemed appropriate, and to take such further steps as may be required to ensure the public's interest are fully protected.
5. The City Manager or her designee, is authorized to explore with the franchisee the possibility of pursuing the informal renewal process under Section 626(h) of the Cable Act.
6. The City Manager or her designee, shall keep the Mayor and City Council fully apprised of the status and progress of franchise renewal proceedings and negotiations.
7. This resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its adoption.

PASSED by the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland at its regular meeting of October 28th, 2019.



Emmett Jordan, Mayor

ATTEST:



Bonita Andersen, City Clerk