

**PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
HYATTSVILLE, MARYLAND**

May 7, 2012

Mayor Marc Tartaro, opened the Public Hearing at 7:42 p.m., at the Municipal Building, 4310 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, Maryland.

Present from the City Council were Mayor Marc Tartaro, Council President Matthew McKnight, and Council Members Ruth Ann Frazier (arrived at 7:54 p.m.), Paula Perry, Timothy Hunt, Candace Hollingsworth, and Shani Warner.

Also present were Acting City Administrator Stookey, Acting Recreation & the Arts Director Sandel, and Acting City Clerk Preston.

The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive input from the public on Comcast's past performance, residential service and any other concerns.

Mayor Marc Tartaro provided a brief introduction on the Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement with the City of Hyattsville. The current agreement expires in 2013. To determine future needs and services, the City is required to perform a community needs assessment. The public hearing was not intended to focus on individual complaints but to highlight areas of needed improvement. The community needs assessment consists of written surveys to residents and local businesses, and public input meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. David Marshall, a Ward 3 resident, addressed Mayor and Council with his concerns that the City negotiate the best deal possible. Mr. Marshall inquired if the market could be open to other cable providers. This could increase competition thereby keeping the price of cable service from increasing. He also stated that he would like to see the money received from Comcast, peg funds, in some type of escrow account and not the general fund.

Acting Recreation & the Arts Director Abby Sandel stated that the peg funds are put into the CIP Budget, which allows for funds to be invested into the cable studio. Since the City is a part of the Prince George's County Consortium, it is easier to negotiate more competitive pricing and share the cost of surveys. with other consortium members.

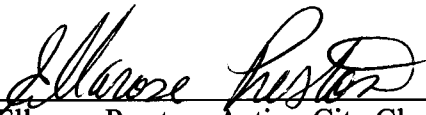
Council Member and Ward 3 resident Timothy Hunt inquired about the progress of possibly having council meetings aired on the City's cable station throughout the week. Ms. Sandel stated that getting the procedures and training in place could start once staffing in the cable room was more stable.

The Public Hearing ended at 7:56 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,


Ellarose Preston, Acting City Clerk