

Cable Television Advisory Council
Tuesday, April 17, 2013

A regular meeting of the Cable Television Advisory Council of Litchfield was held on Wednesday, April 17, 2013. A quorum was present: Chairman, Stephen Simonin, Litchfield; Gary Gault, Litchfield; Andrew MacDavid, Cornwall; John Angevine, Warren; Gary Crowley, Torrington Board of Education; Lucille Paige, Torrington. Absent: Jeff Dunn, Thomaston; Gary Lafferty, Watertown; Diane Knox, Litchfield; John Luciano, Torrington and Christopher Anderson, Torrington.

Also present: Jennifer Young, *Cablevision*; Mary-Ellen Spiegel, Litchfield; Joseph Manes, Litchfield; James Schultz, Warren.

Mr. Simonin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Upon a motion by Ms. Paige, seconded by Mr. Angevine, the Council moved unanimously to approve the minutes of January 24, 2013. Reporting for Treasurer, Diane Knox, Mr. Simonin reported the balance of \$350.43 in the Council's checkbook. In that the stipend from Cablevision (\$2,000) was not received, nor has the check been shown as cashed, Mrs. Young will cancel the original and FEDEX a new check to Mr. Simonin, who in turn will mail the check to Treasurer, Knox.

Under Town Representatives' reports, Mr. Gault has been given informal conversation from some of his constituents in Litchfield wherein a majority feel they are against the \$5.00 increase in fees; many residents are exploring alternatives to *Cablevision* for cable provider. Mr. Angevine reported that many residents are very unhappy with the surcharge now appearing on all *Cablevision billing* for solely receiving sports programs in their chosen tier. Mrs. Young explained the reasons for these increases. A discussion took place on "ala carte" choices for *Cablevision* customers. Mr. Schultz explained how to get rid of the "box" and still receive prime channels – TV's having QAM tuner.

A discussion was held regarding power outages and the results of loss of power relative to *Cablevision*. Most *Cablevision* lines are overhead, but new lines installed in new building divisions are going underground.

Mr. Simonin reported his repeated attempts to get answers from Representative John Piscopo, Chairman of the Energy and Technology Committee in the legislature regarding new bills relative to cable television. A discussion took place on a bill that would rescind regulations on the cable television providers in the state of Connecticut. Conversely, the FCC sent information regarding digital transport, along with mandated "proof of performance test". One can google FCC and find bill number 12-217 for more details.

Upon a motion by Mr. Gault, seconded by Mr. Angevine, the Council unanimously moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**The next meeting of this Council will be held on
Thursday, June 27, 2013, 7:00 p.m. at the Oliver
Wolcott Library, South St., Litchfield, CT.**

Lucille A. Paige, Secretary