

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-21

FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN AND COMCAST

OCTOBER 1, 2024
TOWN COUNCIL



DISCUSSION

Cable franchises

- Agreements between local governments and cable operators that allow the operators to use the governments' rights of way to provide cable service within the community (do not apply to Internet or telephone services)
- In turn, the cable operator must meet requirements including adherence to customer service standards (not proposed to change), payment of franchise fees and provision of public, education and government access channels

Proposed updates to agreement with Comcast

- The proposed agreement is based off of a regionally approved “model” agreement negotiated through the Colorado Communications and Utility Alliance

DISCUSSION, CONT'D

- The bulk of the changes are to bring the agreement into conformance with current federal law. Staff worked with expert law firm Wilson Williams Fellman Dittman to ensure the agreement is as favorable to the Town as possible while conforming to changes in Federal Communications Commission regulations
- One improvement is to how PEG fees are calculated. The proposed agreement sets the fee as a percentage of Comcast's gross revenues, roughly equivalent to what the Town has been receiving through this fee in recent years, which should lessen the impact on the Town from the decline in cable subscribers being seen
- Other than this minimal modification, the proposed agreement would present very little change to the Town or its residents.
- Like other Town franchise agreements, this one would run for 10 years; it would expire November 13, 2034



PROPOSED MOTION

"I move to approve Ordinance No. 2024-21 as introduced by title."