

FairTV – Monthly Meeting Agenda

Old Town Hall January 25, 2016

Meeting Minutes

The FairTV meeting was called to order by Commissioner Jameson at 7:06 PM.

Commissioners in attendance: Strelzer; Jameson; Minsky and Quinn

Absent: None

Members of the Audience: Sen. Tony Hwang

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting opened at 7:07PM

MEETING MINUTES

The November 2015 minutes were approved by the Commission 4-0 (Commissioner Strelzer moved, Commissioner Quinn seconded)

The December 2015 minutes were approved with two amendments (correction of location of meeting and inclusion of Commissioner Jameson as a CAC Party debrief member) by the Commission 4-0 (Commissioner Strelzer moved; Commissioner Quinn seconded)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Commissioner Jameson indicated progress has been made by the Commission in the last year and listed said items. He also indicated that the equipment used by FairTV is getting older and beginning to show failures; and that the challenge will be to maintain said equipment so failures do not occur. It was also indicated that CAC funding will be a potential issue that the Commission may have to deal with.

Commissioner Jameson indicated that there was a meeting on the FairTV budget in December with the First Selectman; and that the meeting went well, discussing a wide array of issues. The First Selectman asked FairTV to come up with a future plan in regards to the budget (perhaps a 3 or 5 year plan; left up to the Commission to decide). He indicated that we are looking to fashion a 3 year budget plan.

Discussion then moved to the current budget where Commissioner Jameson indicated that the budget has a good cushion even if there are future equipment failures. Commissioner Jameson proposed additional responsibilities for the Commissioners as follows: Vice-Chair would handle operations and programming; Secretary would handle all rules and bylaws; and the CAC Rep would handle all CAC2 and

grant issues. Kathy Braun is up for approval on January 25 and is expected to join the Commission at the next meeting (2/20/16). The discussion then moved to the recent server equipment malfunction where it was proposed that an equipment punch list be created for maintenance purposes.

Senator Tony Hwang then addressed the Commission. He stressed the importance of the Commission and suggested there were areas of potential synergy that could be created. The discussion involved the potential of built in cameras for meetings; using other town's taped material for use on FairTV; using PEG PETIA funds to finance upgrades and partnership with Sacred Heart University who maintains an audio/visual center to tape programming for broadcast content. He suggested contacting Mr. Michael Iannozzi from SHU and setting up meeting. Commissioner Jameson indicated the Commission was favorable to partnering with SHU and the High Schools as well. Discussion then moved to PEG PETIA grants and their use to upgrade equipment. Discussion then moved to potential broadcast of secondary content event on January 30 involving a non-profit conversation regarding GE at SHU. Sen Hwang stressed that the issue discussed would be regarding the town and the loss of non-profit funding due to the relocation of GE. The spotlight would be on non-profits and FairTV would use their own staff and equipment to tape event.

PRODUCTION MANAGER'S REPORT

Commissioner Jameson indicated the budget balance as of 1/22/16 was \$32,973, with projected expenditures of \$5K a month through the end of the fiscal year.

CAC2 REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

No new information at this time per Commissioner Strelzer.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Jameson indicated that the RTM has no funding at this time to broadcast additional meetings. He proposed that effective March 26 that FairTV start covering additional RTM meetings through the FairTV budget as a pilot program; Commissioner Strelzer seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

SPECIAL REPORT

Discussion involved the recent equipment malfunction of the server; discussion moved to preventative maintenance and backup equipment. Commissioner Strelzer suggested the purchase of a backup server based on amount of use.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Jameson indicated the formation of an Executive Committee may be necessary in the future; Commission will consider and motion made by Commissioner Jameson to table idea to next meeting; Commissioner Strelzer seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Jameson then redirected discussion back to the additional duties of Commissioners previously touched upon; all Commissioners indicated they would accept additional assignments. Commissioner Jameson made motion to accept new assignments; Commissioner Strelzer seconded; motion passed 4-0. The Commission then turned to the potential taping of the secondary programming on January 30. Considerable discussion ensued from the Commissioners as to whether this program would qualify under the FairTV ordinance. Discussion also held discussing non-partisan versus bi-partisan. After discussion Commission felt program did fall with the ordinance. Commissioner Strelzer made motion to add the event to the agenda; Commissioner Quinn seconded; motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Strelzer then made motion to cover the non-profit philanthropic event on January 30, 2016 contingent upon resources and personnel available for event; Commissioner Quinn seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Quinn indicated he received word from an RTM member that afternoon voicing the concern that the rebuttal to the state of the town address did not fall within the FairTV ordinance; the Commission discussed this issue and determined that the rebuttal did fall within the ordinance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Minsky moved to adjourn; Commissioner Quinn seconded. The vote was 4-0 in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:15PM