

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT, MARYLAND

RESOLUTION NO. R-20-09

Introduced By: **City Council**

Date Introduced **March 2, 2020**

Amendments Adopted

Date Adopted **March 2, 2020**

Date Effective **March 2, 2020**

A RESOLUTION to:

Authorize Negotiation of the Verizon Franchise Renewal, and Together with Prince George's County and other Municipalities jointly negotiate the renewal of the Verizon Franchise Agreement.

FOR the purpose of approving the joint negotiations of the Renewal of the Verizon Franchise Agreement with Prince George's County and other Municipalities in the State of Maryland.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Seat Pleasant have authority pursuant to §1-708 of Local Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland and Chapter 71-Television of the City Code, to regulate cable television franchises within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seat Pleasant entered into a franchise agreement with Verizon Maryland, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the term of the franchise agreement ends in 2022; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seat Pleasant has received a letter from Verizon invoking the formal renewal provisions of Section 626 of the 1984 Cable Communications Policy Act, which also indicates a desire to engage in an informal process of negotiations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seat Pleasant is required to perform a needs assessment as part of any renegotiation of a franchise agreement; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest that the City of Seat Pleasant enters the franchise renewal negotiations with Verizon; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seat Pleasant has been invited to be a part of a joint negotiation, together with Prince Georges County and other municipalities, to negotiate the renewal of the Verizon Franchise Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Seat Pleasant has participated in a similar joint negotiation with the County and municipalities when the original Verizon Franchise Agreement was reached and received the benefit of pooling its financial and other resources to reach an agreement that was acceptable to the City of Seat Pleasant; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the public interest to join with Prince George's County and other municipalities, to allow the City the benefit of pooling its financial and other resources to perform the needs assessment, and to negotiate the renewal of the Verizon Franchise Agreement

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Seat Pleasant that:

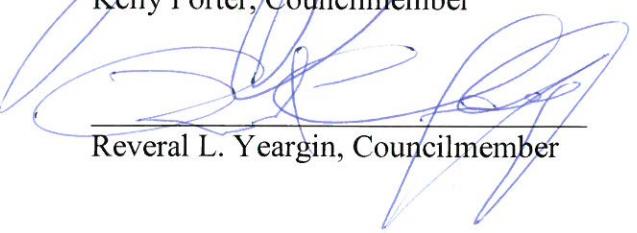
1. The Mayor and Council have determined that it is in the public interest to perform a needs assessment and negotiate the renewal of the Verizon Franchise Agreement, and to join with Prince George's County and other municipalities in the need's assessment and negotiation process.
2. That the City of Seat Pleasant Chief Operating Officer is authorized to take those steps necessary to participate in the joint negotiation.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND RESOLVED that this Resolution be and is hereby adopted this March 2, 2020 to take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Charl Jones, Councilmember


Lamar Maxwell, Councilmember


Kelly Porter, Councilmember


Reveral L. Yeargin, Councilmember


Hope Love, Councilmember


Shireka McCarthy, Councilmember


Gloria L. Sistrunk, Councilmember

ATTEST:


Dashaun N. Lanham, CMC
City Clerk