

**WORK SESSION – March 8, 2021**  
**Town Council – Fiber Optic and Liberty Broadband**

Minutes of the Huntsville Town Council Work Session held at Town Hall 7309 East 200 South, Huntsville, Utah at 6:00 PM. The meeting is regarding the fiber optic proposal from Liberty Broadband.

Attending at Town Hall: Mayor Truett, TCM Max Ferre', TCM Richard Sorensen, TCM Blake Bingham, TCM Wendy McKay, Michael Zindel, Cathy Zindel, Attorney Bill Morris, Lt. Hutchinson, Rex Harris, Beckki Endicott-Recorder

Mayor Truett opened the meeting and introduced Michael and Cathy Zindel who are the owners of Liberty/Freedom Broadband.

Michael presented a four phased plan to run fiber optic cable to cover Huntsville Town in 12 months. Freedom Broadband plan on covering the Town using existing lines and burying other lines where needed. They would like to start in the center of Town. In exchange for hosting a storage cabinet at Town Hall, they would like to offer to the Town a free fiber optic connection in exchange. This cabinet would be about 6 feet tall and could be either inside or outside of Town Hall.

Liberty Broadband pointed to a map that shows the phases of the project in Huntsville. (**See Attachment #1**) It is their goal to impact private properties as little as possible. Liberty Broadband would like the opportunity to work with other developers to drop their fiber optic lines when connecting developments and subdivisions. They do not charge to do that when the lines can be buried with other connections. Liberty Broadband requested a notification when a new development is established in Huntsville Town.

Liberty Broadband would like to start connecting Huntsville residents within the next 3 months. Rates for residents will be competitive with other companies in the Ogden area.

Mayor Truett stated Huntsville has been talking to other companies as well. Attorney Morris read the federal law regarding telecommunications because it does apply to Huntsville. The federal law reference is Section 273, Title 47. Attorney Morris stated he would review the franchise agreement looking for the following points:

- 1) There is a competitive rate that will max out what the State of Utah allows
- 2) Equipment will be moved at the expense of the company if the Town needs to widen the road or do work where the fiber optic is located.
- 3) A term of 5 years.

Mayor Truett expressed concern over having multiple companies come in and dig up areas multiple times if there are multiple companies. Attorney Morris stated the Town cannot prohibit multiple companies from coming into the Town, but they can mitigate any damage or concerns through a franchise agreement. Mayor Truett really likes the idea of using the existing lines on the poles. TCM Blake Bingham said the process will be fast. Michael stated that they will be there when Rocky Mountain Power decides to bury their lines.

Freedom/Liberty Broadband will bury their lines as Rocky Mountain Power decides to bury their lines.

**Meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.**

  
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Beckki Endicott, Recorder

