



SHAKER HEIGHTS

**Building, Housing, and Technology Committee Agenda
City Hall, Conference Room B
THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2018 8:00 AM**

1. Agenda

Documents:

[SPW-BHT AGENDA 5-4-18.PDF](#)

2. Meeting Materials

Documents:

[I-NET FIBER MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT.PDF](#)

To request an accommodation for a person with a disability, call the City's ADA Coordinator at 216-491-1440, or Ohio Relay Service at 711 for TTY users.



SHAKER HEIGHTS

**SAFETY AND PUBLIC WORKS/BUILDING, HOUSING & TECHNOLOGY AGENDA
POLICE DEPARTMENT CLASSROOM
Friday, May 04, 2018 at 08:00 AM**

1. Approval of April 6, 2018 Minutes
Documents: [April 6, 2018 Minutes](#)
2. Agenda Item for Building, Housing & Technology
Documents: [I-Net Fiber Maintenance Agreement](#)
3. Police Technology Presentation

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Memorandum

To: Members of Building, Housing and Technology Committee
From: Frank J. Miozzi, Director, Information Technology Department
cc: Mayor David E. Weiss
Chief Administrative Officer Jeri E. Chaikin
Date: April 18, 2018
Re: I-Net Fiber Maintenance Agreement

Summary

- Charter Communications Operating LLC has provided a fiber maintenance agreement proposal to the City to maintain 22.02 miles of fiber for the City's data network (I-Net) for \$1,256.66/mo. for 60 months. (\$75,399.60)
- The City currently pays Charter Communications \$1,256.66/mo. for fiber maintenance.
- Charter is the current owner of this fiber cable originally installed in 2000 as part of a cable franchise agreement.
- The network is essential to the operations of City Departments for access to computer and various telecommunications resources.
- This agreement represents the most cost effective means to meet the City's network communications requirements for the next five years.

Context

As part of the initial cable franchise negotiations with the company now operating as Charter Communications Operating LLC, the City of Shaker Heights negotiated for the construction of a Community fiber optic network (I-Net) for use by the City, The Shaker Heights School District and the Shaker Heights Library. The network construction was completed in 2000. As constructed, it encompasses over 100 miles of fiber cable and connects 22 buildings. Beginning in 2012, the cable company began charging for maintenance of the fiber due to changes in cable franchise legislation. Last year, when the City sought to renew the maintenance agreement, we were informed they did not want to continue providing this service. Since the City's service was set to expire in less than 90 days and no notice to discontinue had previously been sent, we were successful in getting Charter to offer the City a 12-month agreement. This resulted in all three organization having agreements expiring in 2018.

I contacted the Shaker Heights School District and Shaker Heights Municipal Library to collaborate on addressing this issue. We began meeting to review our options. The Shaker

Schools and Library situation varied in one significant way from the City in that their institutions are eligible for Federal funding for this expense. That process requires seeking proposals well in advance of when the service is required. The advanced notice that resulted from the City bringing this issue to their attention provided them with the time to seek the required proposals.

So as not to jeopardize the chances for this funding, the schools hired a specialized consultant to seek proposals for fiber services for the Schools. It was determined that including the City's fiber needs in their RFP process would complicate, delay and perhaps undermine federal support for the schools expenses. The schools requested proposals for both dark and lit fiber services for their facilities. Dark fiber, refers to the type of service currently provide by Charter. Lit fiber refers to a more managed service offering primarily over existing infrastructure and includes the provision of some network hardware and monitoring. Since the City's network requirements were the same as the Schools, simply different buildings, we planned to review the schools proposals to determine our path forward.

Charter, re-thinking its original position, submitted a proposal for fiber maintenance. Since other vendors have, significant construction expenses not required for Charter, their proposals were not competitive. For example, the schools lowest four proposals follow. I have also listed the highest cost proposals to show the full range of proposals.

| <u>Dark Fiber</u> | <u>Lit Fiber</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| \$163,432.20 (Charter/Spectrum) | \$264,000.00 (Light Tower) |
| \$242,040.00 (Light Tower) | \$623,331.00 (Light Tower 10G) |
| \$333,000.00 (WOW Business) | \$755,700.00 (Unite) |
| \$395,175.00 (Everstream) | \$857,600.00 (WAN Rack) |
| | |
| \$1,142,120.00 (Highest) | \$1,270,700.00 (Highest) |

In all, the schools received 15 proposals. All of the "lit fiber" offerings are cost prohibitive when compared to the Charter proposal. The second lowest dark fiber proposal was 48% more than the offer from Charter. The schools I-Net connects ten school facilities and is a little more than double the amount of fiber footage. From this, we can determine the pricing provided to the City is similar to that which was presented to the Schools in their formal RFP process. I have not received any official communication from the Library staff, but we were told they have worked with CleveNet to address their networking needs.

Recommendation

The Shaker Heights Information Technology Department is strongly recommending the City enter into an agreement with Charter Communications Operating LLC for maintenance of the I-Net fiber network for a period of 5 years (2018-2023) at a total cost of \$75,399.60. Funds are provided in the Information Technology operating budget. This fiber network is essential to the City's operations, providing remote City Buildings with access to the City's shared telecommunications and computer resources. Maintaining the existing cable network is

significantly less expensive than construction of a new network or contracting with a communications service provider for managed data services. The vendor has successfully maintained the I-Net network and it continues to meet all performance requirements. Finally, by contracting for dark fiber, the City controls the ability to upgrade performance of the network through the equipment connect to use it.

The existing fiber network provided for in this agreement connects the following city buildings to City Hall; Fire St. #1, Fire St. #2, Thornton Park, The Stephanie Tubbs-Jones Community Building and the Service Center. The City has its own fiber between City Hall and the Municipal Court/Police Building. As a point of reference, Charter pays the City approximately \$275,000 per year in franchise fees.