

**PLEASE NOTE START TIME**

**AGENDA**  
**MAPLEWOOD CITY COUNCIL**  
**MANAGER WORKSHOP**  
5:30 P.M. Monday, December 10, 2018  
City Hall, Council Chambers

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

**B. ROLL CALL**

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**E. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Update on Cable Franchise Renewal Negotiations

**F. ADJOURNMENT**

**RULES OF CIVILITY FOR THE CITY COUNCIL, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND OUR COMMUNITY**

Following are rules of civility the City of Maplewood expects of everyone appearing at Council Meetings - elected officials, staff and citizens. It is hoped that by following these simple rules, everyone's opinions can be heard and understood in a reasonable manner. We appreciate the fact that when appearing at Council meetings, it is understood that everyone will follow these principles:

Speak only for yourself, not for other council members or citizens - unless specifically tasked by your colleagues to speak for the group or for citizens in the form of a petition.

Show respect during comments and/or discussions, listen actively and do not interrupt or talk amongst each other.

Be respectful of the process, keeping order and decorum. Do not be critical of council members, staff or others in public.

Be respectful of each other's time keeping remarks brief, to the point and non-repetitive.

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## CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date December 10, 2018

**REPORT TO:** Melinda Coleman, City Manager

**REPORT FROM:** Mychal Fowlds, IT Director

**PRESENTER:** Mychal Fowlds, IT Director

**AGENDA ITEM:** Update on Cable Franchise Renewal Negotiations

**Action Requested:**  Motion  Discussion  Public Hearing

**Form of Action:**  Resolution  Ordinance  Contract/Agreement  Proclamation

### **Policy Issue:**

The City is currently engaged in negotiations with Comcast regarding their cable franchise agreement. Cable attorney Bob Vose will be present to give an update on the proceedings to Council.

### **Recommended Action:**

None.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

Is There a Fiscal Impact?  No  Yes, the true or estimated cost is \$0.00

Financing source(s):  Adopted Budget  Budget Modification  New Revenue Source  
 Use of Reserves  Other: N/A

### **Strategic Plan Relevance:**

Financial Sustainability  Integrated Communication  Targeted Redevelopment  
 Operational Effectiveness  Community Inclusiveness  Infrastructure & Asset Mgmt.

The City enters into a number of agreements and contracts with a variety of entities. Doing so in a timely manner ensures that the City continues to operate effectively.

### **Background**

Maplewood issued a cable franchise to Comcast in November of 1999. This franchise was for a 15 year period. In 2014, with the franchise renewal date coming due, an extension was granted through July 31, 2018. With the new renewal date coming, and Comcast wishing to renew its franchise, the City has begun its required work to do so.

As the City is no longer a member of a Cable Commission, it is the City's responsibility to negotiate the terms of the new franchise agreement itself. To assist the City in this process, Mr. Bob Vose from the firm Kennedy & Graven has been hired. Mr. Vose has extensive experience with the cable

franchise renewal process and on November 6, 2017 presented an overview of the renewal process to Council. One of the steps in the renewal process that Mr. Vose explained is the process of identifying future needs and reviewing past performance. Council directed staff to complete this work in house initially, knowing that it could seek a consultant if need be during negotiations, and the needs assessment presented to you on April 9, 2018 was the result of that direction.

In July of 2018 staff presented to Council that while the City was working with Comcast to come to an agreement regarding their renewal, that had not happened and was not going to happen prior to the July 31, 2018 expiration of their current cable franchise agreement. As such, an extension was requested and ultimately approved that extended the current cable franchise agreement, as is, through January 1, 2019.

Over the past 6 months staff has met with Comcast representatives to continue negotiations. We continue to make progress and Mr. Vose will provide an update to Council.

**Attachments**

None.