



Carol A. Murray
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September 24, 2010

VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

Board of Selectmen
Harpwell Town Hall
Town of Harpswell
263 Mountain Road
Harpwell, ME 04079

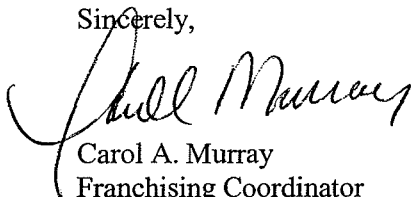
Re: Harpswell, Maine Cable Television Renewal License

Dear Chairman and Members of the Board:

Enclosed please find one fully executed originals of the Cable Television Renewal License between the Town of Harpswell and Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc. As you know, the term is for a ten year period, which commenced on September 24, 2010 and will expire at midnight on September 23, 2020.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 603.695.1490.

Sincerely,



Carol A. Murray
Franchising Coordinator

/cam

Enc.

cc: Cable Advisory Committee, c/o Harpswell Town Hall
Maine Secretary of State
Nick Leuci – Comcast Vice President of Franchising & Community Relations *(2nd original)*
Timothy Murnane – Comcast Vice President of Government & Community Relations *(3rd original)*
Bob Carr - Sr. Director, Government & Community Relations
Jay Somers – Comcast Sr. Manager of Government & Community Relations
Comcast Local Accounting Department
Comcast Corporate Government Affairs Department



Comcast Cable
180 Greenleaf Ave
Portsmouth, NH 03801

August 24, 2010

Board of Selectmen
Town of Harpswell
PO Box 39
Harpswell, ME 04079

Re: Discount for Eligible Senior Citizens

Dear Members of the Board:

The purpose of this letter is to outline Comcast's senior citizen discount to be provided to qualified Harpswell subscribers. The discount will be offered within three (3) months of the August 24, 2010 effective date of the fully executed Cable Television Renewal License and will end on August 24, 2020. The Company reserves the right to modify such program at its sole discretion.

Although the Company offers a level of Basic Service that it feels is affordable, we are pleased to be able to provide a discount to qualified Senior Citizens in Harpswell. To that end, the Company will voluntarily offer a discount of \$2.00 off its Expanded Service tier of cable service to those persons age sixty-five (65) or older, who are heads of households and receiving SSI or Medicaid benefits under Social Security. The subscriber must be able to show proof of qualifications. Acceptable documentation would be any of the following:

Proof of Age – Driver's License, Birth Certificate or Passport

Head of Household – Lease, Deed or Tax Bill

Benefits – Documentation confirming receipt of SSI or Medicaid benefits under Social Security

In the event Comcast adopts and offers a statewide senior citizen discount program, Comcast reserves the right to implement such program in the Town of Harpswell.

Sincerely,

Jay Somers

Sr. Manager of Government Relations and Community Affairs

cc: Kristi K. Eiane, Town Administrator
Bob Carr, Comcast Regional Director of Government Relations

CABLE TELEVISION RENEWAL FRANCHISE
TOWN OF HARPSWELL
_____, 2010

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Administrative Issues

1. Statement of Agreement

This Franchise Agreement (the "Agreement") is made and entered as of September 24, 2010 2010, between the Town of Harpswell (hereinafter "Franchise Authority" or "Municipality"), Maine and Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc. (hereinafter "Franchisee" or "Comcast") a New Hampshire corporation organized and existing in good standing under the laws of the State of Maine (the "Franchisee").

2. Title

This Franchise Agreement shall be known and cited as the "Renewal Cable Television Franchise Agreement between the Town of Harpswell, Maine and Comcast." Within this document it shall also be referred to as

3. Parties

A. Municipality

1. Name: The Town of Harpswell
2. Contact: Kristi K. Eiane, Town Administrator
3. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 39
Harpswell, Maine
4. Telephone: 207-833-5771

B. Franchisee

1. Name: Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc.
2. D/B/A: Comcast
3. Contact: Robert Carr, Director, Government and Community Relations
4. Mailing Address: 55 Concord Street, North Reading, MA 01864
5. Telephone: 978-825-2218

C. Franchisee Local Business Office

As required by 30-A MRS §3010 (1)(B), and 47 CFR §76.309(c)(1)(v) Franchisee shall maintain a Conveniently Located business office that must be open during usual business hours and have a listed toll-free telephone number capable of receiving complaints, requests for adjustments and service calls.

1. Business Office Address: 336 Bath Road, Brunswick, Maine 04101
2. Toll-free Customer Service Number: 1-800-Comcast

D. Addresses

Such addresses may be changed by either party upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other party.

4. Notices (Communications)

All notices required to be provided in this Agreement shall be provided in writing via overnight or certified mail to:

1. Franchisee: to the Franchisee contact at the mailing address in Section 3;
2. Municipality: to the Municipal Contact at mailing address in Section 3.

5. Grant of Authority

Pursuant to the authority in 30-A M.R.S.A. §3008 and 3010, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein, the of Board of Selectmen of the Town of Harpswell as the local Franchise Authority, hereby grants a non-exclusive, revocable cable television franchise to Comcast Maine/New Hampshire authorizing and permitting the Franchisee to own, construct, upgrade, install, operate and maintain a Cable Television System within the Town of Harpswell.

A. Franchise Area

The Franchisee is hereby granted by the Franchise Authority, where it has the right to do so, the right and privilege to own, construct, reconstruct, erect, operate and maintain, in the Town of Harpswell (herein called the "Franchise area" or the "Town"), in, upon, along, across, above, over and under the Rights of Way now laid out or dedicated, and all extensions thereof and additions thereto, poles, wires, cables, optical fibers, underground conduits, manholes and other television and radio conductors and fixtures necessary for the installation, maintenance and operation of a Cable System. In the event of annexation by the Town, any new territory shall become part of the area covered upon sixty (60) days advance written notice by the Town to the Franchisee.

B. Limited Grant

The Franchise Agreement is intended to convey limited rights and interests only as to those Rights-of-Way in which the Town has an actual interest. It is not a warranty of title or interest in any Right-of-Way; it does not provide Franchisee any interest in any particular location within the Right-of-Way, and it does not confer rights other than as expressly provided in the grant. The Franchise Agreement does not deprive the Town of any powers, rights, or privileges it now has or may later acquire in the future to use, perform work on, or to regulate the use of, and to control the Right-of-Way in a non-discriminatory manner as to all users of the rights of way, including without limitation the right to perform work on its roadways, Right-of-Way or appurtenant drainage facilities, including but not limited to, constructing, altering, removing, paving, widening, grading, or excavating.

C. Non-Exclusivity and Competitive Equity

- (a) Franchisee's rights and privileges are non-exclusive and the Town of Harpswell expressly reserves the right to grant other such franchise agreements in the Town.
- (b) In the event that the Franchisee believes that any additional Franchise has been granted on terms and conditions more favorable or less burdensome than those contained in this Franchise, the Franchisee may so notify the Franchising Authority in writing and may request that the Franchising Authority convene a hearing on such issue. Along with said written request, the Franchisee shall provide the Franchising Authority with written reasons for its belief. At said hearing, the Franchisee shall have an opportunity to demonstrate that any such additional Franchise is on terms more favorable or less burdensome than those contained in this Franchise. The Franchisee shall provide the Franchising Authority with such financial or other relevant information as is requested.
- (c) Should the Franchisee demonstrate that any such additional Franchise has been granted on terms and conditions more favorable or less burdensome than those contained in this Franchise, the Franchising Authority shall amend this Franchise within a reasonable time and provide an equivalent amount of relief to the Franchisee.
- (d) In the event that Franchisee demonstrates that an existing or future Cable Service provider in the Town has been provided relief by the Franchising Authority from any obligation of its Franchise, then Franchisee shall be awarded an equivalent amount of relief from obligations herein. Such relief shall be in writing and in the form of an amendment to this Franchise. The Franchising Authority shall convene a public hearing on the issue within sixty (60) days of Franchisee's notification to the Franchising Authority requiring such relief, unless otherwise mutually agreed to. Franchisee shall provide reasons for its belief in the notification. At the public hearing, the Franchising Authority shall afford Franchisee an opportunity to demonstrate that any existing or future service providers in the Town have been provided relief by the Franchising Authority from any obligation of its cable television Franchise. Franchisee shall provide the Franchising Authority with such financial or other relevant information as is requested to justify its belief.

D. Eminent Domain not Conferred

No privilege or power of eminent domain is bestowed to Franchisee by the Town of Harpswell by this grant of this Franchise.

6. Term

This Franchise shall commence upon the effective date of this Agreement, and shall expire ten (10) years thereafter on, unless renewed, revoked or terminated sooner as herein provided.

7. Governing Law

This Franchise Agreement shall be governed by and be subject to federal law, all applicable FCC rules and regulations and the laws and rules of the State of Maine. Franchisee shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Maine in any suit arising out of this Franchise Agreement except that this provision shall not limit Franchisee's right to initiate a proceeding or to remove a proceeding to the United States District Court for the District of Maine.

8. Effect of Acceptance

By accepting the Franchise, Franchisee and the Town of Harpswell: (1) acknowledge and accepts each party's legal right to execute and enforce the Franchise; and (2) accept and agree to comply with the provisions of this Agreement and generally-applicable, non-discriminatory municipal ordinances; and (3) neither party will raise any procedural claims attempting to invalidate the agreement.

9. Definitions

For the purpose of this Franchise Agreement, the following words, terms, phrases, and their derivations shall have the meanings given herein, unless the context clearly requires a different meaning. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future tense, words in the plural number include the singular number, and words in the singular number include the plural number. The word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory, except where noted. Where the following definitions are in conflict with definitions in law, it is the express intent that the definition in applicable Federal or State law shall take precedence.

Affiliate or Affiliated Person: An entity which owns or controls is owned or controlled by, or is under common ownership with a Cable Operator.

Area Outage: An area outage occurs when cable or equipment is damaged, fails or otherwise malfunctions (collectively called "malfunctions"), and ten (10) or more Subscribers receiving services from that section of cable or that equipment receive unusable or no service as a result of that malfunction.

Basic Cable Service: The lowest service tier transmitted to all Subscribers, which includes, at a minimum, (a) all signals of domestic television broadcast stations entitled to "must carry" status under FCC rules, and (b) any public educational and governmental programming required by this Franchise Agreement to be carried on the basic tier, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties.

Broadcast: Over-the-air transmission by a radio or television station.

Cable Act: Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 (the "1984 Cable Act"), Public Law No. 98-549, 98 Stat. 2779 (1984), as amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992 (the "1992 Cable Act"), Public Law No. 102-385, 106 Stat. 1460

(1992) and the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Public Law No. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996), as the same may be amended from time to time .

Cablecast: Programming (exclusive of Broadcast signals) carried on the Cable System.

Cable Service or Service: The one-way transmission to Subscribers of video programming or other programming service, together with Subscriber interaction, if any, which is required for the selection or use of such video programming or other programming service.

Cable System: Shall be defined in accordance with Section 602 of the Cable Act. A facility consisting of a set of closed transmission paths and associated signal generation, reception and control equipment designed to provide Cable Service (including video programming) to multiple Subscribers within a head-end service area. This shall mean the facility serving the Municipality owned, constructed, installed, operated and maintained by Franchisee, consisting of a set of closed transmission paths and associated signal generation, reception, and control equipment that is designated to provide cable service which includes video programming and which is provided to multiple subscribers within a community, but such term does not include (a) a facility that serves only to retransmit the television signals of one or more television broadcast stations; (b) a facility that serves subscribers without using any public right-of-way; (c) a facility of a common carrier which is subject, in whole or in part, to the provisions of Title II of the Cable Act, except that such facility shall be considered a cable system (other than for purposes of section 621(c) of the Cable Act) to the extent such facility is used in the transmission of video programming directly to subscribers unless the extent of such use is solely to provide interactive on-demand services; or (d) an open video system that complies with section 653 of this title, or (e) any facilities of any electric utility used solely for operating its electric utility systems.

Channel or Video Channel: A portion of the electromagnetic frequency spectrum which is used in a Cable System and which is capable of delivering a television channel.

Franchisee: Any Person or Persons owning, controlling, operating, managing or leasing a Cable System within the Municipality, pursuant to any Franchise granted to it by the Franchising Authority. This term shall include any lawful successor(s) to the interest of such Person or Persons where consent to such successor(s) is approved under any applicable terms of the Franchise Agreement.

Contractor or Subcontractor or Agent: Any person or entity who or which directly or indirectly works for or is under the direction of "The Franchisee" for the purpose of installation or repair of any portion of the Franchisee's Cable System in the Municipality.

Conveniently Located: A Franchisee office that is located as agreed by both parties.

Converter: A special tuner or device attached to the Subscriber's television set that expands reception capacity and/or unscrambles coded signals distributed over the Cable System.

Designated Access Provider: The entity or entities which may be designated from time to time by the Issuing Authority to provide PEG access to the residents of the Town.

Downstream Channel: A channel over which Signals travel from the Cable System Head end to an authorized recipient of programming.

Downstream Transmission: Signals traveling from the head-end to the Subscriber's location.

Drop or Cable Drop: The interconnection between each home or building and the feeder cable of the Cable System.

FCC: The Federal Communications Commission or any successor agency.

Feeder Cable: The cable, connected to trunk cable, from which cable television signal service is distributed to multiple Subscribers, as distinguished from trunk cable (which distributes cable television service throughout the Franchise area) and drop cable.

Franchise Agreement: The non-exclusive Cable Television Franchise to be granted to Franchisee by this instrument to include the right, privilege and franchise to construct, operate and maintain a Cable System, and appurtenances or parts thereof, in the Streets, roads, alleys, and other Public Ways of the Municipality.

Gross Annual Revenue: Revenue received by the Franchisee from the carriage of Cable Service over the Cable System including, without limitation: the distribution of any Cable Service over the System; Basic Service monthly fees; all other Cable Service fees; fees paid for pay and/or pay-per-view services, installation, reconnection, downgrade, upgrade and any other similar fees; fees paid for channels designated for commercial use; converter, remote control and other equipment rentals, and/or leases and/or sales; all home shopping service(s) revenues; and advertising revenues. Gross Annual Revenue shall not include any taxes or fees other than franchise fees on services furnished by Franchisee imposed directly on any Subscriber or user by any governmental unit and collected by Franchisee for such governmental unit. In the event that an Affiliate is responsible for advertising on the Cable System in the Municipality, advertising revenues shall be deemed to be the pro-rata portion of advertising revenues, excluding commissions and/or applicable agency fees, paid to the Franchisee by an Affiliate for said Affiliate's use of the Cable System for the carriage of advertising. It is the intention of the parties hereto that Gross Annual Revenues shall only include such revenue of Affiliates and/or Persons relating to the provision of Cable Service over the Cable System and not the gross revenues of any such Affiliate(s) and/or Person(s) itself, where unrelated to Franchisee's provision of Cable Services. Gross Annual Revenue shall be computed in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

Head-end: A Franchisee owned or leased facility through which Broadcast and cablecast signals are electronically acquired, translated, or modified for distribution over the Cable System.

Interactive Service: Any service that offers to Subscribers the capability of both transmitting and receiving Signals of any kind.

Leased Channel or Leased Access: A video channel which the Licensee shall make available pursuant to Section 612 of the Cable Act.

Municipality: The Town of Harpswell, Maine, or its successor.

Origination Point: A connection to the cable system which is provided to allow for live or recorded programming to be transmitted from that location Upstream to the Head-end and from there Downstream to the Subscribers over one or more access channels.

Other Programming Service: Information that Franchisee may make available to all Subscribers generally.

Outlet: An interior receptacle, generally mounted in a wall, that connects a subscriber's or user's television set to the Cable System.

Parent: When used in reference to Franchisee, any Person holding direct or indirect ownership or control of thirty percent (30%) or more of the rights of control of Franchisee; and any Person holding such ownership or control of a Parent to Franchisee.

Pay Cable or Premium Service: Optional programming delivered for a fee or charge to Subscribers on a per-channel basis, or as a package of services.

Pay-Per-View: Programming delivered for a fee or charge to Subscribers on a per-program or time basis.

PEG: Public, Educational, and Governmental; used in conjunction with Access Channels, support and facilities.

Person: Any corporation, partnership, limited partnership, association, trust, organization, other business entity, individual, or group of individuals acting in concert.

Programming or Video Programming: Programming provided by, or generally considered comparable to programming provided by, a television broadcast station.

Public Building: All state accredited public schools, police and fire stations, public libraries, Town Hall, and other public buildings owned or leased by the municipality, but shall not include buildings owned by the municipality but leased to third parties or buildings such as storage facilities at which government employees are not regularly stationed.

Public Way, Streets or Rights-of-Way: The surface of, and the space above and below, any public Street, highway, bridge, land path, alley, court, boulevard, sidewalk, parkway, way, lane, Public Way, drive, circle, or other public right-of-way, including, but not limited to, public utility easements, dedicated utility strips, or rights-of-way dedicated for compatible uses and any temporary or permanent fixtures or improvements located thereon now or hereafter held by the Municipality, in the Municipality which shall entitle the Franchisee to the use thereof for the

purpose of installing, operating, repairing, and maintaining the Cable System. "Street" or "Public Way" shall also mean any easement now or hereafter held by the Municipality within the Town for the purpose of public travel, or for utility or public service use dedicated for public travel, or for utility or public service use dedicated for compatible uses, and shall include other easements or rights-of-way as shall within their proper use and meaning entitle the Franchisee to the use thereof for the purposes of installing or transmitting the Franchisee's Cable Service or other service over poles, wires, cables, conductors, ducts, conduits, vaults, manholes, amplifiers, appliances, attachments, and other property as may be ordinarily necessary and pertinent to the Cable System. Reference herein to "Public Way" or "Street" shall not be construed to be a representation or guarantee by the Municipality that its property rights are sufficient to permit its use for any purpose, or that the Municipality shall gain or be permitted to exercise any rights to use property in the Municipality greater than those already possessed by the Municipality.

Signal: Any transmission of electromagnetic or optical energy which carries Video Programming from one location to another.

State: The State of Maine.

Subscriber: Any person, firm, corporation, or other entity who or which elects to subscribe to for any purpose, a Cable Service provided by the Franchisee by means of, or in connection with, the Cable Television System.

Subscriber Network: The bi-directional-capable network to be owned and operated by the Franchisee, over which Cable Service(s) can be transmitted to Subscribers.

Transfer: The disposal by the Franchisee directly or indirectly, by gift, assignment, sale, merger, consolidation or otherwise, of the ownership or control of the System or of the Franchise Agreement to a Person, or a group of Persons acting in concert.

Two-way Capability: The ability to transmit Signals upstream and downstream on the Cable System.

Upstream Channel: A channel over which Signals travel from an origination point to a system distribution point.

Upstream Transmission: Signals traveling from origination points on the Cable System to a cable distribution point.

10. Construction and Maintenance

A. General Provisions

1. Quality

In the construction, reconstruction, maintenance and repair of the Cable System, Franchisee shall ensure the Cable System meets the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

2. Compliance with Laws and Regulations

All work, including all working conditions and facilities, associated with the construction, operation, maintenance, repair and removal of the Cable System shall comply with:

- (a) All applicable Federal Laws, Rules and Regulations;
- (b) All applicable State Laws, Rules, Regulations and Codes, including building and electrical codes; and,
- (c) All generally applicable ordinances, including zoning ordinances, of Municipality.

Franchisee shall obtain all generally applicable permits before commencing any construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance, or other work or property use in the public rights of way. Permits for emergency work shall be obtained as soon as possible, but in no event later than one business day after the work is begun. The grant of permits by the Town shall be timely and shall not be unreasonably withheld.

3. Public Ways Hazards

Any openings or obstructions in Streets or other municipal or public property made by Franchisee shall be guarded and protected at all times by the placement of adequate barriers, fences, boardings or other protective devices at the sole expense of Franchisee. During the periods of dusk and darkness, the protective devices shall be clearly designated by warning lights.

4. Tree Trimming

Franchisee shall have the authority to trim any trees upon and overhanging Town Streets or Public Ways to the minimum extent necessary to prevent the branches of such trees from coming in contact with the wires and cables of The Franchisee; provided that, except for incidental trimming done by Franchisee employees in the course of performing their other duties, any tree trimming within the rights of

way of the Town's Streets and Public Ways done by Franchisee shall take place only after providing 48-hour notice to the Town Administrator.

5. Restoration of Damage

Franchisee, at its sole expense, shall restore all damage to property, both public and private, caused by the construction, operation, maintenance or repair of the Cable System, so as to return the damaged property to a condition as good as reasonably possible before the damage was done. Such restoration shall be made as soon as practicable after completion of work necessitating the restoration. Absent force majeure, such restoration shall be made insofar as reasonably possible within fifteen business days, weather permitting, after Franchisee's receipt of notification from the owner of the property so damaged unless otherwise mutually agreed by Franchisee and the property owner; provided, that if any such damage involves curbs, sidewalks or driveways, the damage shall be repaired to the satisfaction of the Town's (curbs and sidewalks) or the owner or tenant in possession of the property (driveways) within ten business days. Franchisee shall provide the Town with immediate notice for any damage Franchisee causes to: Streets, water-mains, storm or sanitary sewers, or other public facilities. If Franchisee does not make the repairs to such public facilities, Franchisee shall be financially liable for the reasonable cost of any repairs. If Franchisee fails to make such restoration on a timely basis, the Town may fix a reasonable time for such restoration and repairs and shall notify Franchisee in writing of the restoration and repairs required and time fixed for performance hereof. Upon failure of Franchisee to comply within the specified time period, the Town may cause proper restoration and repairs to be made and the reasonable expense of such work shall be paid by Franchisee upon demand by the Town.

6. Contractors, Subcontractors and Agents

All contractors, subcontractors and agents of Franchisee must be properly licensed under all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

B. Cable System Location

1. Map of Physical Facilities

With reasonable advanced written notice to Franchisee, the Town shall have the right to inspect street maps which identify the location of all trunk and feeder runs including underground. Said maps will be maintained by Franchisee and available for review at Franchisee's office upon request.

2. Location of System

Wherever available to Franchisee on reasonable terms and conditions, the distribution system shall use the existing facilities of the public utilities. Poles

shall not be installed for the sole purpose of supporting a portion of the distribution system without written justification and approval of the Town, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld, pursuant to the Town's generally applicable law, ordinances, rules and regulations.

- (a) Where the cable or wire facilities of the public utilities are installed underground, Franchisee shall install its cable distribution system underground. Vaults and pedestals shall be suitably landscaped.
- (b) In all areas where public utility lines are aerially placed, if subsequently during the term of this Franchise Agreement such utility lines are relocated underground, Franchisee shall similarly relocate its cable distribution system underground at its sole expense. If other owners of utility lines or other users are entitled to reimbursement for such relocation costs and the source of funding for said reimbursement allows it, Franchisee shall have its relocation costs reimbursed as well.

3. No Interference with Rights of Way

Except during temporary construction, installation, or maintenance activities, all lines, cables and distribution structure, and equipment, including poles and towers, erected, installed or maintained by Franchisee within the Town shall be located so as not to obstruct or interfere with the proper use of Streets and Public Ways and to cause minimum interference with the rights of property owners who abut any of the said Streets and Public Ways, and not to interfere with existing public utility installations. Franchisee shall not place new poles, towers or other obstructions in Streets or Public Ways, or relocate existing poles, towers or other obstructions, without first obtaining Town's approval, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. Franchisee shall have no vested right in any location, and such construction shall be removed by Franchisee at its own cost and expense whenever the same restricts or obstructs or interferes with the operation or location or any future operation or location of said Streets or Public Ways by the Town for a municipal purpose.

Franchisee shall at all times comply with applicable state laws including but not limited to 35-A MRSA Chapter 25 (e.g., pole location permits) and 23 MRSA §2351(excavation permits).

4. Construction by Municipality

If at any time during the term of this Franchise Agreement the Town shall elect to alter, or change the grade or location of any Street, or shall engage in any construction, reconstruction, widening, repairs or other public works in, on or under the Streets, Franchisee shall, upon reasonable notice by the Town, remove and relocate its poles, wires, cables, conduits, manholes and other fixtures ("fixtures") at its own expense, and in each instance comply with the Town's

generally applicable, non-discriminatory standards and specifications. If other owners of utility lines or other users are entitled to reimbursement of costs for relocations required by this section and the source of funding for said reimbursement allows it, Franchisee shall have its relocation costs reimbursed as well.

5. No Interference with Other Fixtures

Franchisee shall not place fixtures above or below ground where the same will unreasonably interfere with any existing or fully permitted gas, electricity, telephone fixtures, water hydrants, or other utility use, and all such fixtures placed in or upon any Street shall be so placed as to comply with all generally applicable requirements of the Town or other state authority.

6. Temporary Relocations

Franchisee shall, on request of any Person holding a permit issued by the Town or other appropriate authority, temporarily move its fixtures to permit the moving or erection of buildings or other objects, with the expense of any such temporary removal to be paid in advance by the Person requesting same, and Franchisee shall be given reasonable notice to arrange for such temporary relocation. Franchisee shall bear any expense to temporarily move its fixtures to permit the moving or erection of publicly owned or constructed buildings or other objects. If other owners of utility lines or other users are entitled to reimbursement of costs for relocations required by this section and the source of funding for said reimbursement allows it, Franchisee shall have its relocation costs reimbursed as well.

C. Communications

1. Franchisee Notice

Except in an emergency, and except for interruptions of four hours or less, Franchisee shall give Subscribers at least 24 hours' notice, if practical, of any interruption of service, lasting four (4) hours or longer, for purposes of maintenance or repair. In an emergency, Franchisee shall give such notice as is reasonable in the circumstances.

2. Subscriber Requesting Maintenance

Subscribers may request maintenance at the Business Office of Franchisee or by calling the toll-free telephone number each of which is required by 30-A MRSA §3010(1)(B).

3. Franchisee Responses

Franchisee responses to such requests shall be governed by the applicable standards of the Federal Communications Commission and state law.

4. Subscriber-Owned Equipment Excluded

The requirements for maintenance and repair shall not apply to Subscriber television or radio receivers or other Subscriber-owned equipment.

11. Operations

A. Performance Standards

1. System Design

(a) 750 MHz hybrid fiber-coax system with a minimum capacity of 78 channels and bi-directional capability built to and maintained to FCC Technical specifications. Proof of Performance tests are available for inspection at Franchisee's office.

(b) Upgrade Technical Standards (if any): If the Franchisee elects to upgrade its system in the Franchise Area, the Franchisee shall notify the Town.

2. Operations

The Cable System shall be constructed, operated and maintained to comply with all applicable technical standards of the Federal Communications Commission.

B. Performance Testing

The Municipality is entitled to review copies of FCC Proof of Performance upon written request.

C. Emergency Alert System

Franchisee shall comply in full with the requirements for an Emergency Alert System (EAS) as provided in FCC regulations, 47 CFR Part 11, and with any applicable State emergency notification requirements not preempted by Federal law.

D. Subscriber Antennae

Notwithstanding a required disconnection of Subscribers' existing antennae and down leads to receivers connected to the Cable System, Company shall not remove or suggest to the Subscriber the removal of such antennae and down leads. Franchisee shall furnish to each Subscriber so requesting, at the Subscriber's expense, a switch permitting the Subscriber to change from cable reception to home antenna reception, and back, at the

option of the Subscriber. Installation of such switches at the time of initial installation of service to a Subscriber shall be without charge other than for such purchase cost.

E. Video Recording Device/Cable Compatibility

Franchisee shall comply with applicable Federal Communication Commission standards for compatibility with consumer electronics equipment.

12. Insurance

A. Franchisee Insurance

1. Franchisee shall maintain insurance throughout the term of this Franchise and any removal period, with an insurance agency authorized to conduct business in the State of Maine, protecting as required in this Franchise, Franchisee and listing the Municipality as an additional insured, against any and all claims for injury or damage to persons or property, both real and personal, caused by the construction, installation, operation, maintenance or removal of its Cable System.
 - (a) The amount of such insurance for liability for damage to property shall be no less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) as to any one occurrence. The amount of such insurance for liability for injury or death to any person shall be no less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) as to any one occurrence. The amount of such insurance for excess liability shall be Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) in umbrella form. Policy will contain a provision that the Municipality will be provided thirty (30) days written notice prior to any cancellation, material modification or non-renewal.
2. The Franchisee shall carry insurance against all claims arising out of the operation of motor vehicles and general tort or contract liability in the amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00). Policy will contain a provision that the Town of Harpswell will be provided thirty (30) days written notice prior to any cancellation, material modification or non-renewal.
3. All insurance coverage, including Workers' Compensation shall be maintained throughout the period of this Franchise. All expenses incurred for said insurance shall be at the sole expense of the Franchisee.
4. Franchisee shall provide the Town with certificates of insurance upon execution of this Agreement or as otherwise provided by its insurance Franchisee.

B. Insurance to be provided by Subcontractors

All contractors and subcontractors shall provide adequate insurance coverage.

C. Indemnification of Municipality

The Franchisee hereby indemnifies and holds the Town of Harpswell, its councilors, officers, agents, employees, members of boards and committees, with respect to the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of the Cable System, harmless from and against all expenses, losses and claims, demands, payments, suits, actions, recoveries, and judgments of any nature and description, other than as a result of the negligence of the Town, including reasonable attorney's fees, resulting from claims, any act or omission of the Franchisee, its agents or employees, in the construction, operation, maintenance, repair or service of its Cable System, or by reason of any suit or claim for royalties, license fees, or infringement of copyright or patent rights arising from the Franchisee's performance under this Franchise Agreement. In the event of the commencement of any action against the Town of Harpswell, or its councilors, officers, agents, employees, or members of boards and committees which is within the scope of this indemnification, the Town will give notice thereof to Comcast within fifteen business days after the Town is formally served in any such action, and, after consultation with the Town, the Franchisee will have the right to select and furnish counsel for the defense of any such action, at no cost or expense to the Town of Harpswell. Town's failure to give timely notice to Comcast of the commencement of any such action shall not relieve the Franchisee of its obligations under this section unless such failure to give timely notice causes actual prejudice to Comcast's ability to defend any such claim. Except for settlements involving only the payment of money, no settlement which creates an obligation for the Town, of any such action, or any claim therein, shall be made by the Franchisee or by counsel selected by the Franchisee without the approval of the Town of Harpswell, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. The extent of the indemnification agreement will not be limited by the requirements for liability insurance in this Agreement.

D. Indemnification of Franchisee

The Town of Harpswell will indemnify the Franchisee for any and all claims arising out of programming of PEG channels, except where the Franchisee provided the programming.

E. Municipal Immunities

The provisions of this section, including the indemnity provisions in sub-section C and D and the procurement by the Franchisee of insurance policies meeting the requirements of this section 12, shall not be interpreted or construed to effect any waiver, suspension, release or alteration of or to any and all immunity or other immunities or damage limits as may be available to the Town by law.

13. Performance Bond

A. Performance Bond

Franchisee shall maintain a construction Bond in an amount of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) during any project for which excavation of a Right-of-Way occurs, or during the rebuild of the Cable System, at its sole cost and expense, and file with Municipality, an irrevocable performance bond, running to the Municipality, with a surety authorized to do business as a surety in the State of Maine, to guarantee the faithful performance by Franchisee of all of its construction or rebuild obligations under this Franchise Agreement.

B. Conditions

The performance bond shall provide, but not be limited to, the following conditions. There shall be recoverable by the Town of Harpswell, jointly and severally from the principal and surety, subject to the provisions in Section 22(C) within thirty (30) days after written request by the Town, any and all penalties due to the Town and any and all damages, losses, costs and expenses suffered or incurred by the Town resulting from the failure of Franchisee to comply with the construction or rebuild provisions of this Franchise Agreement. Such losses, costs and expenses shall include, but not be limited to, reasonable attorney's fees and other legal, consulting and auditing expenses. Not less than thirty days' prior notice to Town shall be provided of Franchisee or the surety's intention to cancel, materially change, or not to renew the performance bond.

C. Forfeiture

Subject to the provisions in Section 22C, the total amount of the bond shall be forfeited in favor of the Town of Harpswell in the event the Franchisee fails to complete its construction or rebuild obligations.

D. Replenishment

In the event that any portion of the performance bond is forfeited or withdrawn for any reason, the Franchisee shall take immediate steps to reinstate the performance bond to the appropriate amount required herein. Failure to reinstate the bond on a timely basis shall constitute a violation of a material provision of this Franchise Agreement within the meaning of Section 22 hereof.

E. Municipality Rights

The rights reserved to the Town of Harpswell with respect to the Performance Bond are in addition to all other rights of the Town, whether reserved by this Franchise Agreement or authorized by law, and no action, proceeding or exercise of a right with respect to such sections shall affect any other rights the Town may have.

14. Records and Reports

A. Availability of Records to Municipality

Upon reasonable written notice to the Franchisee, the Town shall have the right to inspect Franchisee's books and records during Normal Business Hours and on a non-disruptive basis, as are reasonably necessary to ensure compliance with the material terms of this Franchise, including any federal, state, laws or regulations or generally applicable ordinances referenced herein. Records should be produced within 15 business days of receipt of written request, unless for good cause Franchisee responds that a longer amount of time will be needed. Such written notice from the Town shall specifically reference the section or subsection of the Franchise which is under review, so that the Town may organize the necessary books and records for appropriate access by the Town. Franchisee shall not be required to maintain any books and records for Franchise compliance purposes longer than three (3) years. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth herein, Franchisee shall not be required to disclose information that it reasonably deems to be proprietary or confidential in nature, nor disclose any of its books and records not relating to the provision of Cable Service in the Franchise Area. The Town shall treat any information disclosed by Franchisee as confidential and shall only disclose it to employees, or the Town's agents bound by a confidentiality and non-disclosure agreement reasonably acceptable to Franchisee, or as may be necessary to enforce the provisions hereof. Franchisee shall not be required to provide Subscriber information in violation of Section 631 of the Communications Act, and 47 USC §551.

Franchisee shall at all times after the effective date maintain:

1. Records of all written complaints for a period of two (2) years after receipt by the Franchisee (The term "complaint" as used herein refers to complaints about any aspect of the Franchisee service operations, Complaints recorded will not be limited to complaints requiring an employee service call.);
2. Records of area outages for a period of two (2) years after occurrence, indicating date, duration, and the number of Subscribers affected, type of area outage, and cause;
3. Records of service calls for repair and maintenance for a period of two (2) years after resolution by the franchisee, indicating the date and time service was required, the date of acknowledgment and date and time service was scheduled (if it was scheduled), and the date and time service was provided, and (if different) the date and time the problem was resolved;
4. Records of installation/reconnection and requests for service extension for a period of two (2) years after the request was fulfilled by Franchisee, indicating the date of request, date of acknowledgment, and the date and time service was extended; and
5. A map showing the area of coverage for the provisioning of Cable Services.

The Town reserves its right to copy books and records as allowed under FCC regulation.

B. Annual Report

Upon written request from the Town of Harpswell, The Franchisee shall provide to the Town a summary of the Franchisee's activities in the Town for the previous calendar year including a summary of:

1. Total number of cable subscribers;
2. Total miles of new cable plant installed;
3. Total number of service calls indicating number of dispatches and number repaired;
4. Listing of all charges and fees for cable or cable-related services;
5. All area outages, including date and duration;
6. The total revenues upon which a franchise fee (if any) is paid (broken down by major category);
7. The total franchise fee for the year;
8. Equipment or equivalent funding provided to the PEG channels(s) (if any);
9. Other information Franchisee chooses to include.

C. Charges for Audits or Tests

If an inspection or audit of Franchisee records shows that Franchisee underpaid the franchise fee by four percent or more for any payment period, Franchisee shall reimburse the Town for all reasonable costs including expert fees arising from the inspection or audit upon settlement of the audit and Franchisee is in full compliance.

In addition, except as federal law prevents the Town from enforcing any standards, if it is determined that Franchisee has not materially complied with FCC technical standards, the Town shall have the right to charge all costs arising from these tests, including expert fees, to Franchisee until it is determined that the Franchisee is in full compliance. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the obligation to pay the Town's costs for tests of the performance of the Cable System shall only arise if the Town's test is (1) a test of an area where Franchisee has represented that it has corrected a problem, and the problem was not in fact corrected; (2) a second test of an area by the Town, where Franchisee had been notified of the problem and been given an opportunity to cure it; or (3) where Franchisee challenged the validity of a Town test, and the Town agrees to retest, and the re-test confirms the validity of the initial Town test. These charges are incidental to the enforcement of the Franchise; they do not limit any right the Town may have to exercise any other remedy.

Municipal Benefits

15. Franchise Fee

A. Amount

Franchisee shall provide a Franchise Fee to the Town of Harpswell or its designee, equal to five percent (5%) of its Gross Annual Revenues. Said five percent (5%) Franchise Fee shall be made payable to the Town, on a semi-annually basis (January 1 through June 30; July 1 through December 31), no later than sixty (60) days after the end of the calendar quarter for which payment is made.

1. Payment

The semi-annual payment shall include a statement showing the basis for the payment, including a breakdown by category (e.g., basic service, home shopping channels, advertising) of Gross Annual Revenues for the quarter.

2. Late Payments

In the event that the fees herein required are not tendered on or before the dates fixed in Section 15A above, interest due on such fee shall accrue from the date due at one and one-half percent (1.5%) per month.

3. Acceptance of Payment

Acceptance of payment by the Town shall not be construed as accord that amount paid is the correct amount. The Town of Harpswell reserves its rights to inspect relevant books and seek any underpayments due. If the Town has not begun process to challenge or audit payment of franchise fee within twenty-four (24) months of receipt of final annual payment, and breakdowns provided pursuant to subsection 1 are certified, payment is deemed accurate.

B. Technology Grant

Comcast will pay the Town a Technology Grant of Five Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$5,400) paid annually on the 15th of January for the term of the ten (10) year license. The grant is to be used by the Town for Cable and Technology-related purposes. The cost of the Grant will be passed through to Harpswell subscribers.

16. Public, Educational and Governmental Access (PEG)

A. Use of PEG Access Channels

Channel capacity for public, educational and governmental ("PEG") access shall be provided in accordance with federal law, 47 USC §531 and §546, and as further set forth below.

B. Channels

Franchisee shall continue to provide two (2) channels for public, educational and governmental access programming, which channels shall continue to have its current stereo audio capacity. All PEG access channels shall at all times be accessible to all of Franchisee's subscribers, including those subscribers who receive only Franchisee's basic services. If such subscribers will be required to use a converter or other "set top box" to achieve such accessibility, Franchisee shall supply such converter or other "set top box" to such subscribers at no charge to the subscriber that is in addition to any normal set top box charge required to receive the necessary tier of service.

C. PEG Facilities and Equipment Support

The Franchisee shall provide to the Town of Harpswell, a PEG Access capital equipment grant of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000), to be used to purchase and /or lease access equipment and facilities, payable as follows: Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be paid ninety (90) days after the signing of the renewal license: Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) payable on the third anniversary of the renewal license: and Twenty (\$20,000) payable on the sixth anniversary of the Renewal License. The Town, as the Franchising Authority, acknowledges the PEG access equipment grant will be passed through to the Subscribers in accordance with federal law.

D. Reimbursement for PEG Costs Associated with Relocation of Channel

If a PEG channel is relocated by Franchisee, Franchisee shall reimburse the PEG provider for costs associated with changing logos, letterhead, business cards etc. to reflect a new channel number not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000). Municipality and Franchisee may also negotiate the promotion of this change. Franchisee will provide Municipality with at least thirty (30) days notice of any relocation of any PEG channel.

E. Comcast will continue to provide video origination capability from the Harpswell Island School and West Harpswell School.

17. Build-out

A. Area To Be Served

1. The Franchisee shall make Cable Service available to every residential dwelling unit within the Town of Harpswell where the minimum density is at least eighteen (18) dwelling units per aerial mile and forty (40) dwelling units per underground mile providing however, that any plant extension is measured from the existing Trunk and Distribution System and Franchisee is able to obtain from property owners any necessary easements and/or permits on terms and conditions acceptable to Franchisee. Subject to the density requirement, Franchisee shall offer Cable Service at standard installation rates to all new homes or previously unserved homes located within one hundred twenty-five (125) aerial feet of the Franchisee's Distribution Cable. For non-Standard Installations (those exceeding 125 aerial feet or underground) Franchisee shall, upon receipt of payment and pending any identified construction or other issues (e.g., make ready, weather) offer said service within thirty (30) days of a Subscriber requesting such for aerial installations and sixty (60) days of a Subscriber requesting such for underground installations.
2. Regardless of the density requirements outlined above, the Franchisee shall provide a cost-sharing arrangement as follows. On the request of a resident desiring service, Franchisee shall prepare an engineering survey and cost analysis to determine the cost of plant extension required to provide service to the subscriber. If a request for extension of service into a residential area requires the construction of cable plant that does not meet at least eighteen (18) homes per aerial mile, and forty (40) homes per underground mile, the Franchisee and those residents requesting cable services will each bear their proportionate share of construction costs. For example, if there are ten single family homes per mile who agree to subscribe to cable service, Franchisee shall share in the average pay 10/18ths of the cost to construct and the remaining cost will be shared equally among the residents requesting cable services. Franchisee may require advance payment of the customer pro-rata cost prior to commencing construction.
3. Installation costs shall conform with the Cable Act. Any dwelling unit within an aerial 125 feet of the Trunk and Distribution Cable shall be entitled to a Standard Installation rate in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. Franchisee shall annually publish and provide to Town, and to each subscriber or potential subscriber who so requests, a statement of its then established Standard Installation rate. Underground installations are considered non-standard installations. All non-standard installations shall be provided at a rate established by the Franchisee in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
4. Provided Franchisee has at least ninety (90) days' prior written notice concerning the opening of residential subdivision trenching, or of the installation of conduit for the location of utilities, and the density requirements outlined above are met, it shall install its cable in such trenching or conduits or may seek permission to utilize

alternative trenching or conduits within a comparable time frame. The Town, or its designee, shall exercise reasonable efforts to have the Planning Board and developers give timely written notice of trenching and underground construction to Franchisee. Developer shall be responsible for the digging and back-filling of all trenches.

5. Comcast will extend Cable Service to 705, 717, and 729 Harpswell Island Road. Construction will commence during the second quarter of 2011. The cost of this extension will be passed through to Harpswell subscribers in accordance with applicable law.

Consumer Issues

18. Rates & Services

A. Prices and Charges

1. All rates, fees, charges, deposits and associated terms and conditions to be imposed by the Franchisee for any Cable Service as of the Effective Date shall be in accordance with all applicable FCC rate regulations. Before any new or modified rate, fee, or charge is imposed, the Franchisee shall follow the applicable FCC and State notice requirements and rules and notify affected Subscribers, which notice may be by any means permitted under applicable law. Nothing in this Franchise shall be construed to prohibit the reduction or waiver of charges in conjunction with promotional campaigns for the purpose of attracting or retaining Subscribers.

Complete information concerning billing and collection procedures, including dispute resolution, procedures for ordering changes in, or termination of services, and Franchisee's discontinuation policies and procedures shall be provided to each subscriber at least annually.

2. The Town of Harpswell acknowledges that certain costs of Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") Access and other Franchise requirements, may be passed through to Subscribers in accordance with federal law.

B. Basic Cable Service

The Franchisee shall make available a Basic Cable Service tier to all subscribers in accordance with 47 USC §534 and applicable regulations, including 76.1618 of the FCC Rules and Regulations, and shall provide notice of the basic tier pursuant to 30-A MRSA §3010.

C. Programming

Pursuant to federal law, all Video Programming decisions, excluding PEG Access Programming, are at the sole discretion of Franchisee, except that pursuant to 47 USC

§544(b)(2) (B) and (h) and 47 CFR §76.1603. Municipality may require "broad categories" of programming.

19. Rights of Individuals

A. Customer Service

Franchisee shall comply with all customer service federal laws, regulations of the FCC (currently codified at 47 CFR 76.309) and state laws as they may be amended from time to time.

B. Protection of Subscriber Privacy

Franchisee comply with all applicable federal and state privacy laws and regulations, including 47 USC §551 and regulations adopted pursuant thereto and 30-A MRSA §3010.

C. Employee Identification Cards

All of Franchisee's employees, and subcontractors, including repair and sales personnel, entering private property shall be required to display an identification card issued or approved by Franchisee indicating that employee or subcontractor is working on behalf of Franchisee.

D. Monitoring

Franchisee may only monitor customer accounts consistent with applicable federal and state law.

E. Privacy Written Notice

At the time of entering into an agreement to provide any Cable Service or other service to a Subscriber, and annually thereafter to all Cable System Subscribers, the Franchisee shall provide Subscribers with written notice, as required by Section 631(a)(1) of the Cable Act, (47 USC §551) which, at a minimum, clearly and conspicuously explains the Franchisee's practices regarding the collection, retention, uses, and dissemination of personal subscriber information, and describing the Franchisee's policy for the protection of subscriber privacy.

F. Subscriber's Right to Inspect and Verify Information

1. The Franchisee shall make available for inspection by a Subscriber at a reasonable time and place all personal subscriber information that the Franchisee maintains regarding said Subscriber.

2. A Subscriber may obtain from the Franchisee a copy of any or all of the personal subscriber information regarding him or her maintained by the Franchisee. The Franchisee may require a fee for making said copy.
3. A Subscriber may challenge the accuracy, completeness, retention, use or dissemination of any item of personal subscriber information. Such challenges and related inquiries about the handling of subscriber information shall be directed to the Franchisee. The Franchisee shall change any such information upon a reasonable showing by any Subscriber that such information is inaccurate.

20. Unauthorized Connections/Continuity of Service

It shall be the right of all Subscribers to receive Cable Service insofar as their financial and other obligations to the Franchisee are honored, provided that the Franchisee shall have no obligation to provide Cable Service to any Person who, or which the Franchisee has a reasonable basis to believe, is using an unauthorized Converter or is otherwise obtaining Cable Service without required payment thereof or who threatens the Franchisee's employees or damages the Franchisee's equipment. The Franchisee shall ensure that all Subscribers receive continuous, uninterrupted Service, except for necessary Service interruptions. (See Section 10.C.1)

21. Subscriber Complaints

A. Dispute Resolution

The Franchisee shall establish a procedure for resolution of Complaints by Subscribers. Said procedure shall at a minimum include the provisions of 30-A MRSA §3010.

B. Investigation of Complaints

Upon reasonable notice, the Franchisee shall expeditiously investigate and resolve all Complaints regarding the quality of Service, equipment malfunctions and similar matters. In the event that a Subscriber is aggrieved, the Town or its designee(s) shall be responsible for receiving and acting upon such Subscriber Complaints and/or inquiries, as follows:

1. Upon the written request of the Town or its designee(s), the Franchisee shall, within ten (10) business days after receiving such request, send a written report to the Town with respect to any Complaint. Such report shall provide a full explanation of the investigation, finding and corrective steps, if any, taken by the Franchisee.
2. Should a Subscriber have an unresolved Complaint regarding cable television operations, the Subscriber shall be entitled to file his or her Complaint with the

Town or its designee(s), who shall have primary responsibility for the continuing administration of this Renewal License and the implementation of Complaint procedures. The Subscriber shall thereafter meet jointly with the Town or its designee(s) and a representative of the Franchisee, within thirty (30) days of the Subscriber's filing of his or her Complaint, in order to fully discuss and resolve such matter in accordance with applicable laws.

C. Complaint Policy

Franchisee shall provide the Town a copy of Franchisee's complaint policy annually and no later than thirty (30) days after any revisions. If Franchisee maintains a publicly available website, Franchisee's complaint policy shall be posted on its website

22. Penalties

A. Amounts

Because the Franchisee's failure to comply with provisions of this Agreement will result in injury to the Town of Harpswell, and because it will be difficult to estimate the extent of such injury, the Town and the Franchisee agree to the following liquidated damages for the following violations. These damages represent both parties' best estimate of the damages resulting from the specified injury.

(1) For failure to comply with the following provisions of this agreement:

- (a) for failure to operate and maintain the Cable System, in accordance with Sections 2.1(c) and 4.1, One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per day, for each day that such non-compliance continues;
- (b) for failure to comply with the FCC Customer Service Obligations, One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per day that any such non-compliance continues;
- (c) for failure to comply with the PEG Access support provisions in accordance with Section 16 herein, One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per day that such non-compliance continues; and
- (d) for failure to build out the cable system in accordance with Section 17A above, One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per day that such non-compliance continues.

(2) Such liquidated damages shall be in addition to, and not a limitation upon, any other provisions of this Franchise and applicable law, including revocation, or any other statutorily or judicially imposed penalties or remedies; provided, however, that in the event that the Franchise Authority collects liquidated damages for a specific breach pursuant to Section 23A above, the collection of such liquidated damages shall be deemed to be the exclusive remedy for said specific breach.

(3) Franchisee shall have thirty (30) days from receipt of written notice from the Franchise Authority to pay the liquidated damages; provided, however, that Franchisee

may appeal (by pursuing administrative, judicial or other relief afforded by the Franchise Authority) any assessment of liquidated damages within thirty (30) days of receiving written notice of the assessment.

B. Date of Violation, Notice

The date of violation will be the date the Franchisee receives written notice of the violation.

C. Notice and Opportunity to Cure

Before the Town may assess any liquidated damages under this Franchise Agreement:

1. The Town shall notify the Franchisee, in writing, of the alleged failure or violation, which notice shall specify the alleged failure or violation with reasonable particularity.
2. The Franchisee shall, within thirty (30) days after receipt of the notice or such longer period as the Town may specify in such notice, either cure the alleged failure or violation or, in a written response to the Board of Selectmen, either present facts and arguments in refutation or excuse of such alleged failure or violation or state that the alleged failure or violation will be cured and set forth the method and time schedule for accomplishing such cure.
3. Unless the Board of Selectmen determines that the matter has been resolved, the Company's response shall be submitted to the Board of Selectmen, to schedule a public hearing at which the Board of Selectmen shall determine (i) whether a failure or violation has occurred; (ii) whether such failure or violation is excusable; and (iii) whether such failure or violation has been or will be cured by the Town; and (iv) the appropriate remedy for the failure or violation.
4. The Town shall provide thirty (30) days' written notice of the public hearing to the Franchisee. During the public hearing, Franchisee shall have the right to appear and be heard, including the opportunity to present evidence, question witnesses, if any, and the hearing shall follow the procedures set forth for public hearings. If the Board of Selectmen determines that such failure has not occurred, or that such failure either has been or will be cured in a manner and in accordance with a reasonable schedule satisfactory to the Board of Selectmen or that the failure is excusable, such determination shall conclude the matter, unless Franchisee fails to comply with the schedule for cure.

23. Transfers

A. Franchisee's Right to Transfer

The Franchise may be sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, (a "Franchise Transfer") in accordance with the procedure set forth in federal law, and this Franchise.

B. Municipality's Right to Approve

Pursuant to 47 USC §537, the Town of Harpswell, as Local Franchise Authority, reserves its right to approve any sale or transfer of the Cable System. Town approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

A transfer or assignment of a Franchise or control thereof between commonly controlled entities, between affiliated companies, or between parent and subsidiary corporations, shall not constitute a transfer or assignment of a Franchise or control thereof. An "affiliated company" is any person or entity that directly or indirectly or through one or more intermediaries controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with another person or entity.

C. Notice to Municipality

The Franchisee shall provide to the Town Notice of the proposed transfer. The contents of the Notice shall include:

1. FCC Form 394, or successor form, and all identified attachments; and
2. Certification by transferee that it will accept the provisions of this Franchise Agreement for the remainder of the Franchise Term.

D. Time to Review

The Town will have one hundred twenty (120) days from receipt of the Notice to take action on the request for transfer. The Town need not, but may, act to approve the transfer.

E. Public Hearing

The Town may conduct a public hearing on the proposed transfer no later than 90 days after the receipt of the notice of transfer.

F. No Waiver or Release

The consent or approval of the Town of Harpswell to any Transfer of the Cable System or this Franchise Agreement granted to the Franchisee shall not constitute

a waiver or release of the rights of the Town in and shall, by its terms be expressly subordinate to the terms and conditions of this Franchise Agreement.

24. Successors/Assigns

The obligations of this Franchise apply to any and all successors and assigns of the Franchisee, unless the Town expressly and in writing agrees to release the successors and assigns from this Franchise or any portion thereof.

25. Renewal

This Franchise may be renewed by the parties in accordance with state and federal law. In order for the Town to refuse to renew, the provisions of 47 USC §546 must be met.

26. Revocation and Termination

A. Right to Revoke or Terminate

In addition to all other rights and powers of the Town by virtue of this Franchise Agreement and after notice and opportunity to cure pursuant to section 23C, Town may revoke this Franchise Agreement and all rights and privileges of the Franchisee hereunder in the event the Franchisee either:

1. Violates any material provision of this Franchise Agreement or any rule, order or determination of the Town made pursuant thereto where such violation remains uncured for a period of thirty days following written notice to Franchisee by the Town that such violation is deemed to exist unless cure is not feasible in such time period in which event the parties shall meet and agree to a cure schedule;
2. Attempts to evade any material provision of this Franchise Agreement or practices any fraud or deceit upon the Town;
3. Arbitrarily ceases to provide service over the Cable System or fails to restore service after ninety-six (96) consecutive hours of interrupted service except in cases of force majeure or when approval of such interruption is obtained from the Town.

B. Procedures to Revoke or Terminate

In addition to all other rights and powers of the Town by virtue of this Franchise Agreement and after notice and opportunity to cure pursuant to section 23C, the Town of Harpswell shall follow the following procedures in revoking a franchise:

-
1. The Town shall provide to the Franchisee the Town's notice of intention to revoke this Franchise. The written notice shall be sent by certified or overnight mail and shall describe in reasonable detail the specific violations alleged to have occurred;
 2. The Franchisee shall have ninety (90) days from receipt of notice to either correct the alleged violation, or, dispute the Town's allegations. In the event that by nature of the alleged violation, such violation cannot be cured within such ninety (90) day period, the parties shall meet and agree to a cure schedule;
 3. If the Franchisee disputes the Town's allegations, the Town shall review the dispute and make its determination as to whether a violation has occurred;
 4. If the Town continues to maintain that a violation did occur, the Town shall notify the Franchisee in writing. The Franchisee shall then either remedy the violation within ninety (90) days or notify the Town in writing that the Franchisee continues to dispute the allegations;
 5. Upon the Franchisee's failure to remedy the violation within the time period prescribed, The Town may revoke this Franchise Agreement by providing the Franchisee written notice of revocation.

C. Public Hearing

Upon written request from the Franchisee, the Town shall conduct a public hearing on the revocation. The Franchisee shall have the right to participate in such hearing, present witnesses, and the Town shall issue a written determination of its findings. Such public hearing must take place no less than thirty (30) days prior to the decision to revoke.

D. Judicial Review

The Franchisee shall have the right to seek judicial review of the Town's determination to revoke.

27. Abandonment

If Franchisee shall cease providing service in the Town of Harpswell pursuant to 30-A MRSA §3008(3)(B), the Franchisee shall remove all of its supporting structures, poles, transmission and distribution systems, and other appurtenances from the Public Ways and shall restore the areas to their original condition as is reasonably possible and as soon as reasonably possible. If such removal is not complete within six (6) months of such end of service, the Town may deem any property not removed as having been abandoned. Upon written request of the Franchisee, the Town may waive this requirement for good cause shown. In the event the Franchisee's supporting structures, transmission and distribution systems, and other appurtenances are deemed to have been abandoned the Town may, but is not required, to take ownership thereof and thereafter make such disposition as the Town in its sole discretion may decide. The Town will

take ownership of such supporting structures, poles, transmission and distribution systems, and other appurtenances only as the result of a formal determination thereof by the Board of Selectmen pursuant to applicable Town ordinances and to applicable provisions including Section 23C of this Franchise.

28. Expiration of Agreement

Upon the expiration and non-renewal, or revocation of this Franchise Agreement and exhaustion of all judicial appeals, the Cable System shall be disposed of according to 47 USC §546 and this Franchise Agreement.

29. Changes in Law

In the event a federal or state law, regulation or decision by a court of competent jurisdiction renders a provision in this Franchise Agreement void or otherwise unenforceable, the provision shall be considered preempted. This preemption will last for as long as the law, regulation or decision is effective; if the law, regulation or decision is subsequently repealed, rescinded, amended, voided, overturned or otherwise changed so that the preemption is nullified, the provision shall thereupon return to full force and effect as provided by such proceeding and shall be binding and enforceable in accordance with the terms thereof.

30. Amendments

This Franchise Agreement shall not be amended or modified except by written agreement executed in the same manner as this Franchise Agreement. Where applicable, the amendment shall be consistent with the provisions of 47 USC §545.

31. Miscellaneous

A. Force Majeure

The Parties shall not be responsible for any delay or failure to perform their obligations under this Franchise Agreement if doing so is prevented by Act of God, flood, storm, fire, explosions, environmental restrictions, strikes, riots, wars whether or not declared, insurrections, epidemics, or any law, rule or act of any court of competent jurisdiction or instrumentality of government or any cause or event beyond the control of the Franchisee.

B. Severability

If any provision of this Franchise Agreement is held by any court or Federal or State agency of competent jurisdiction to be invalid as conflicting with any Federal or State law, rule or regulation now or hereafter in effect, or is held by such court or agency to be modified in any way in order to conform to the requirements of any such law, rule or

regulation, said provision shall be considered a separate, distinct and independent part of this Franchise Agreement, and such holding shall not affect the validity and enforceability of all other provisions hereof, all of which shall remain in full force and effect for the term of this Franchise Agreement.

C. Effect on Prior Agreements

This Franchise Agreement shall supersede any prior franchise agreements between the parties. Immediately upon the taking effect of this Franchise Agreement, all prior franchise agreements and any and all extensions thereof, shall terminate and shall have no further force and effect; provided, however, that any vested rights relating to billings and the Town's rights to receive franchise fees shall not be affected thereby.

D. Non-Enforcement Not Waiver

Neither party shall be excused from complying with any of the terms and conditions of this Franchise Agreement by any failure of either party upon one or more occasions to insist upon or to seek compliance with any such terms or conditions. No course of dealing between the Franchisee and the Town, nor any delay on the part of the Town or Franchisee in exercising any rights hereunder, shall operate as a waiver of any such rights of the Town or Franchisee or acquiescence in the actions of the Franchisee or Town in contravention of such right, except to the extent expressly waived by either party or expressly provided for in this Franchise Agreement. No decision by the Town or Franchisee to invoke any remedy under this Franchise Agreement or under any statute, law or ordinance shall preclude the availability of any other such remedy. This provision does not extend any applicable statute of limitations.

E. Franchisee Warranties

The Franchisee warrants, represents and acknowledges that, as of the Execution Date of this Franchise Agreement:

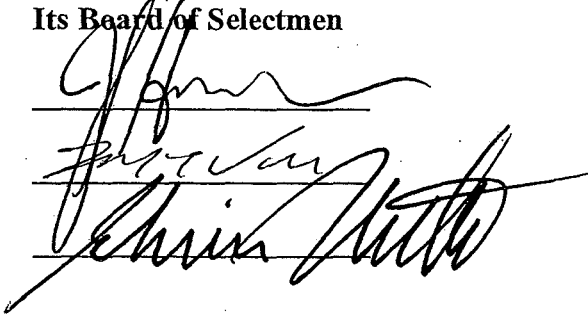
1. The Franchisee is duly authorized to do business under the laws of the State;
2. The Franchisee has the requisite power and authority under applicable law and its bylaws and articles of incorporation and/or other organizational documents, is authorized by resolutions of its Board of Directors or other governing body, and has secured all consents which are required to be obtained as of the execution date of this Franchise Agreement, to enter into and legally bind the Franchisee to this Franchise Agreement and to take all actions necessary to perform all of its obligations pursuant to this Franchise Agreement;
3. This Franchise Agreement is enforceable against the Franchisee in accordance with the provisions herein; and
4. There is no action or proceedings pending or threatened against the Franchisee that would interfere with performance of this Franchise Agreement.

Execution

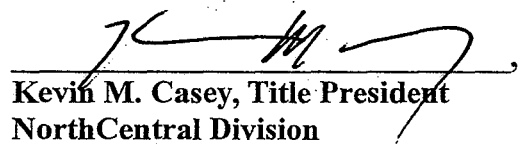
32. Signatures

For Municipality : Town of Harpswell
Its Board of Selectmen

Date August 26, 2010



For Franchisee: Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire



Kevin M. Casey, Title President
NorthCentral Division

Date SEP. 24, 2010

Appendix A – FCC Regulations

47 CFR Part 76.309

§ 76.309 Customer service obligations.

(a) A cable franchise authority may enforce the customer service standards set forth in paragraph (c) of this section against cable operators. The franchise authority must provide affected cable operators ninety (90) days written notice of its intent to enforce the standards.

(b) Nothing in this rule should be construed to prevent or prohibit:

- (1) A franchising authority and a cable operator from agreeing to customer service requirements that exceed the standards set forth in paragraph (c) of this section;
- (2) A franchising authority from enforcing, through the end of the franchise term, pre-existing customer service requirements that exceed the standards set forth in paragraph (c) of this section and are contained in current franchise agreements;
- (3) Any State or any franchising authority from enacting or enforcing any consumer protection law, to the extent not specifically preempted herein; or
- (4) The establishment or enforcement of any State or municipal law or regulation concerning customer service that imposes customer service requirements that exceed, or address matters not addressed by the standards set forth in paragraph (c) of this section.

(c) Effective July 1, 1993, a cable operator shall be subject to the following customer service standards:

(1) Cable system office hours and telephone availability—

(i) The cable operator will maintain a local, toll-free or collect call telephone access line which will be available to its subscribers 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

(A) Trained company representatives will be available to respond to customer telephone inquiries during normal business hours.

(B) After normal business hours, the access line may be answered by a service or an automated response system, including an answering machine. Inquiries received after normal business hours must be responded to by a trained company representative on the next business day.

(ii) Under normal operating conditions, telephone answer time by a customer representative, including wait time, shall not exceed thirty (30) seconds when the connection is made. If the call needs to be transferred, transfer time shall not exceed

thirty (30) seconds. These standards shall be met no less than ninety (90) percent of the time under normal operating conditions, measured on a quarterly basis.

(iii) The operator will not be required to acquire equipment or perform surveys to measure compliance with the telephone answering standards above unless an historical record of complaints indicates a clear failure to comply.

(iv) Under normal operating conditions, the customer will receive a busy signal less than three (3) percent of the time.

(v) Customer service center and bill payment locations will be open at least during normal business hours and will be conveniently located.

(2) Installations, outages and service calls. Under normal operating conditions, each of the following four standards will be met no less than ninety five (95) percent of the time measured on a quarterly basis:

(i) Standard installations will be performed within seven (7) business days after an order has been placed. "Standard" installations are those that are located up to 125 feet from the existing distribution system.

(ii) Excluding conditions beyond the control of the operator, the cable operator will begin working on "service interruptions" promptly and in no event later than 24 hours after the interruption becomes known. The cable operator must begin actions to correct other service problems the next business day after notification of the service problem.

(iii) The "appointment window" alternatives for installations, service calls, and other installation activities will be either a specific time or, at maximum, a four-hour time block during normal business hours. (The operator may schedule service calls and other installation activities outside of normal business hours for the express convenience of the customer.)

(iv) An operator may not cancel an appointment with a customer after the close of business on the business day prior to the scheduled appointment.

(v) If a cable operator representative is running late for an appointment with a customer and will not be able to keep the appointment as scheduled, the customer will be contacted. The appointment will be rescheduled, as necessary, at a time which is convenient for the customer.

(3) Communications between cable operators and cable subscribers—

(i) Refunds—Refund checks will be issued promptly, but no later than either—

(A) The customer's next billing cycle following resolution of the request or thirty (30) days, whichever is earlier, or

(B) The return of the equipment supplied by the cable operator if service is terminated.

(ii) Credits—Credits for service will be issued no later than the customer's next billing cycle following the determination that a credit is warranted.

(4) Definitions—

(i) Normal business hours —The term “normal business hours” means those hours during which most similar businesses in the community are open to serve customers. In all cases, “normal business hours” must include some evening hours at least one night per week and/or some weekend hours.

(ii) Normal operating conditions —The term “normal operating conditions” means those service conditions which are within the control of the cable operator. Those conditions which are not within the control of the cable operator include, but are not limited to, natural disasters, civil disturbances, power outages, telephone network outages, and severe or unusual weather conditions. Those conditions which are ordinarily within the control of the cable operator include, but are not limited to, special promotions, pay-per-view events, rate increases, regular peak or seasonal demand periods, and maintenance or upgrade of the cable system.

(iii) Service interruption —The term “service interruption” means the loss of picture or sound on one or more cable channels.

Note to §76.309: Section 76.1602 contains notification requirements for cable operators with regard to operator obligations to subscribers and general information to be provided to customers regarding service. Section 76.1603 contains subscriber notification requirements governing rate and service changes. Section 76.1619 contains notification requirements for cable operators with regard to subscriber bill information and operator response procedures pertaining to bill disputes.

[58 FR 21109, Apr. 19, 1993, as amended at 61 FR 18977, Apr. 30, 1996; 65 FR 53615, Sept. 5, 2000; 67 FR 1650, Jan. 14, 2002]

§ 76.1602 Customer service—general information.

(a) A cable franchise authority may enforce the customer service standards set forth in paragraph (b) of this section against cable operators. The franchise authority must provide affected cable operators 90 days written notice of its intent to enforce standards.

(b) Effective July 1, 1993, the cable operator shall provide written information on each of the following areas at the time of installation of service, at least annually to all subscribers, and at any time upon request:

-
- (1) Products and services offered;
 - (2) Prices and options for programming services and conditions of subscription to programming and other services;
 - (3) Installation and service maintenance policies;
 - (4) Instructions on how to use the cable service;
 - (5) Channel positions of programming carried on the system; and
 - (6) Billing and complaint procedures, including the address and telephone number of the local franchise authority's cable office.

(c) Subscribers shall be advised of the procedures for resolution of complaints about the quality of the television signal delivered by the cable system operator, including the address of the responsible officer of the local franchising authority.

§ 76.1603 Customer service—rate and service changes.

(a) A cable franchise authority may enforce the customer service standards set forth in paragraph (b) of this section against cable operators. The franchise authority must provide affected cable operators 90 days written notice of its intent to enforce standards.

(b) Customers will be notified of any changes in rates, programming services or channel positions as soon as possible in writing. Notice must be given to subscribers a minimum of thirty (30) days in advance of such changes if the change is within the control of the cable operator. In addition, the cable operator shall notify subscribers 30 days in advance of any significant changes in the other information required by §76.1602.

(c) In addition to the requirement of paragraph (b) of this section regarding advance notification to customers of any changes in rates, programming services or channel positions, cable systems shall give thirty (30) days written notice to both subscribers and local franchising authorities before implementing any rate or service change. Such notice shall state the precise amount of any rate change and briefly explain in readily understandable fashion the cause of the rate change (e.g., inflation, change in external costs or the addition/deletion of channels). When the change involves the addition or deletion of channels, each channel added or deleted must be separately identified. For purposes of the carriage of digital broadcast signals, the operator need only identify for subscribers, the television signal added and not whether that signal may be multiplexed during certain dayparts.

(d) A cable operator shall provide written notice to a subscriber of any increase in the price to be charged for the basic service tier or associated equipment at least 30 days before any proposed increase is effective. The notice should include the name and address of the local franchising authority.

(e) To the extent the operator is required to provide notice of service and rate changes to subscribers, the operator may provide such notice using any reasonable written means at its sole discretion.

(f) Notwithstanding any other provision of part 76 of this chapter, a cable operator shall not be required to provide prior notice of any rate change that is the result of a regulatory fee, franchise fee, or any other fee, tax, assessment, or charge of any kind imposed by any Federal agency, State, or franchising authority on the transaction between the operator and the subscriber.

Note 1 to §76.1603: Section 624(h) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 544(h), contains additional notification requirements which a franchising authority may enforce.

Note 2 to §76.1603: Section 624(d)(3) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 544(d)(3), contains additional notification provisions pertaining to cable operators who offer a premium channel without charge to cable subscribers who do not subscribe to such premium channel.

Note 3 to §76.1603: Section 631 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 551, contains additional notification requirements pertaining to the protection of subscriber privacy.

[65 FR 53617, Sept. 5, 2000, as amended at 66 FR 16554, Mar. 26, 2001]

§ 76.1619 Information on subscriber bills.

(a) Effective July 1, 1993, bills must be clear, concise and understandable. Bills must be fully itemized, with itemizations including, but not limited to, basic and premium service charges and equipment charges. Bills will also clearly delineate all activity during the billing period, including optional charges, rebates and credits.

(b) In case of a billing dispute, the cable operator must respond to a written complaint from a subscriber within 30 days.

(c) A cable franchise authority may enforce the customer service standards set forth in this section against cable operators. The franchise authority must provide affected cable operators 90 days written notice of its intent to enforce standards.

Appendix B – Maine Statutes

STATE LAW

(As listed on the state website)

30-A MRSA §3008.

<http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/30-A/title30-Asec3008.html>

A. §3008. Ordinances relating to cable television systems

1. State policy. It is the policy of this State, with respect to cable television systems:

A. To affirm the importance of municipal control of franchising and regulation in order to ensure that the needs and interests of local citizens are adequately met; [1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); 1989, c. 6, (AMD); 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. That each municipality, when acting to displace competition with regulation of cable television systems, shall proceed according to the judgment of the municipal officers as to the type and degree of regulatory activity considered to be in the best interests of its citizens; [2007, c. 548, §1 (AMD).]

C. To provide adequate statutory authority to municipalities to make franchising and regulatory decisions to implement this policy and to avoid the costs and uncertainty of lawsuits challenging that authority; and [2007, c. 548, §1 (AMD).]

D. To ensure that all cable television operators receive the same treatment with respect to franchising and regulatory processes and to encourage new providers to provide competitive pressure on the pricing of such services. [2007, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]
[2007, c. 548, §1 (AMD).]

1-A. Definitions. For purposes of this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings:

A. "Cable system operator" has the same meaning as "cable operator," as that term is defined in 47 United States Code, Section 522(5), as in effect on January 1, 2008; [2007, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

B. "Cable television service" has the same meaning as "cable service," as that term is defined in 47 United States Code, Section 522(6), as in effect on January 1, 2008; and [2007, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

C. "Cable television system" has the same meaning as "cable system," as that term is defined in 47 United States Code, Section 522(7), as in effect on January 1, 2008. [2007, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]
[2007, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

2. Ordinances. A municipality may enact any ordinances, not contrary to this chapter, governing franchising and regulation of cable television systems using public ways. Systems located in accordance with those ordinances, franchises and regulations are not defects in public ways.

The municipal officers of municipalities have the exclusive power to enact all ordinances authorized by this section. They shall give 7 days' notice of the meeting at which those ordinances are to be proposed in the manner provided for town meetings. Those ordinances take effect immediately.

[1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); 1989, c. 6, (AMD); 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

3. General requirements. The following requirements apply generally to cable television systems governed by this section.

A. Any cable television system must be constructed and operated in accordance with Federal Communications Commission regulations. [1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); 1989, c. 6, (AMD); 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. Notwithstanding any provision in a franchise, a cable system operator may not abandon service or a portion of that service without having given 6 months' prior written notice to the franchising municipality, if any, and to the municipalities affected by that abandonment. When abandonment of any service is prohibited by a municipal franchise, a cable system operator may not abandon that service without written consent of the municipal officers. Any cable system operator that violates this paragraph commits a civil violation for which a fine of \$50 a day for each day that the violation continues may be adjudged. [2007, c. 548, §1 (AMD).]

C. Neither the cable system operator whose facilities are used to transmit a program produced by a person other than that operator, under Federal Communications Commission regulations or municipal ordinance, nor the officers, directors or employees of any such cable system operator are liable for damages arising from any obscene or defamatory statements or actions or invasion of privacy occurring during any program when that cable system operator does not originate or produce the program. [2007, c. 548, §1 (AMD).]

D. [2007, c. 548, §1 (RP).]

E. A municipality is entitled to injunctive relief in addition to any other remedies available by law to protect any rights conferred upon the municipality by this section or any ordinances enacted under this section or section 3010. [2007, c. 548, §1 (AMD).]
[2007, c. 548, §1 (AMD).]

4. Franchise procedures. Pursuant to subsection 2, a municipality may enact ordinances governing the procedures for granting franchises to cable system operators. These ordinances must be enacted before granting any such franchise or franchises and must be designed to ensure that the terms and conditions of a franchise will adequately protect the needs and interests of the municipality. The ordinances must include, but are not limited to, provisions for the following:

A. A mechanism for determining special local needs or interests before issuing a request for proposals, whether by actively seeking to determine those needs or interests or by allowing a period for public comment on a proposed request for proposals; [1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); 1989, c. 6, (AMD); 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. The filing of franchise applications and related documents as public records, with reasonable notice to the public that the records are open to inspection during reasonable hours; [1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); 1989, c. 6, (AMD); 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. A reasonable opportunity for public input before granting franchises; and [1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); 1989, c. 6, (AMD); 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

D. The assessment of reasonable fees to defray the costs of public notice, advertising and other expenses incurred by the municipality in acting upon applications. [1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); 1989, c. 6, (AMD); 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]
[2007, c. 548, §1 (AMD).]

5. Franchise agreements or contracts. The State specifically authorizes municipal officers pursuant to ordinances to contract on such terms and conditions and impose such fees as are in the best interests of the municipality, including the grant of exclusive or nonexclusive franchises for a period not to exceed 15 years, for the placing and maintenance of cable

television systems and appurtenances, or parts thereof, along public ways and including contracts with cable system operators that receive the services of television signal transmission offered by any public utilities using public ways for such transmission. A public utility may not be required to contract with the municipal officers under this subsection. Each franchise must contain the following provisions:

A. The area or areas to be served; [1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); 1989, c. 6, (AMD); 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. A line extension policy; [1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); 1989, c. 6, (AMD); 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. A provision for renewal, the term of which may not exceed 15 years; [1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); 1989, c. 6, (AMD); 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

D. Procedures for the investigation and resolution of complaints by the cable system operator; and [2007, c. 548, §1 (AMD).]

E. Any other terms and conditions that are in the best interests of the municipality. [1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); 1989, c. 6, (AMD); 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[2007, c. 548, §1 (AMD).]

6. Current ordinances and agreements.

[2007, c. 548, §1 (RP).]

7. Model franchise agreement. The Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology, referred to in this subsection as "the office," shall develop a model franchise agreement for use by any municipality and any cable system operator that mutually choose to adopt the model franchise agreement or any of its provisions. The office shall make the model franchise agreement available on its publicly accessible website. In the development of the model franchise agreement, the office shall, at a minimum, consider the following issues:

A. Franchise fees; [2007, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

B. Build-out requirements; [2007, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

C. Public, educational and governmental access channels and reasonable facility support for such channels; [2007, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

D. Customer service standards; [2007, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

E. The disparate needs of the diverse municipalities in this State; and [2007, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

F. The policy goal of promoting competition in the delivery of cable television service. [2007, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

This subsection does not allow the office to establish prices for any cable television service or to regulate the content of cable television service.

[2007, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

1987, c. 737, §§A2, C106 (NEW). 1989, c. 6, (AMD). 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). 1989, c. 104, §§C8, 10 (AMD). 2007, c. 548, §1 (AMD).

30-A MRSA §3010

<http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/30-A/title30-Asec3010.html>

B. §3010. Consumer rights and protection relating to cable television service

This section applies to every franchisee. For purposes of this section, "franchisee" means a cable system operator that is granted a franchise by a municipality in accordance with section 3008.

For purposes of this section, "cable system operator" and "cable television service" have the same meanings as in section 3008. [2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]

1. Credits and refunds for interruption of service. Credits and refunds for interruption of cable television service of a franchisee must be as follows.

A. In the event service to any subscriber is interrupted for 6 or more consecutive hours in a 30-day period, the franchisee will, upon request, grant that subscriber a pro rata credit or rebate. [2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]

B. An office of the franchisee must be open during usual business hours, have a listed toll-free telephone and be capable of receiving complaints, requests for adjustments and service calls. [2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]

C. The franchisee shall provide subscribers with 30 days' advance written notice of an increase in rates, changes in billing practices or the deletion of a channel. [2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).] [2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]

1-A. Service disconnection. A franchisee must discontinue billing a subscriber for a service within 10 working days after the subscriber requests that service disconnection unless the subscriber unreasonably hinders access by the franchisee to equipment of the franchisee on the premises of the subscriber to which the franchisee must have access to complete the requested disconnection. [2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]

2. Notice to subscribers regarding quality of service. Notice to subscribers regarding quality of service must be as follows.

A. For each new subscriber, and annually thereafter, every franchisee shall cause to be mailed to each of its subscribers a notice that:

(1) Informs subscribers of how to communicate their views and complaints to the cable system operator, the proper municipal official and the Attorney General;

(2) States the responsibility of the Department of the Attorney General to receive consumer complaints concerning matters other than channel selection and rates;

(3) States the policy regarding and method by which subscribers may request rebates or pro rata credits as described in subsection 1, paragraph A; and

(4) Informs subscribers of their right to request basic-tier, nonpremium programming service and the cost of that service. [2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]

B. The notice must be in nontechnical language, understandable by the general public and in a convenient format. On or before January 30th of each year, the franchisee shall certify to the franchising authority and to the Department of the Attorney General that it has distributed the notice during the previous calendar year as required by this section. [2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).] [2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]

2-A. Notice on subscriber bills; credits and refunds. Every franchisee shall include on each subscriber bill for service a notice regarding the subscriber's right to a pro rata credit or rebate for interruption of service upon request in accordance with subsection 1. The notice must include a toll-free telephone number and a telephone number accessible by a teletypewriter device or TTY for contacting the franchisee to request the pro rata credit or rebate for service interruption. The notice must be in nontechnical language, understandable by the general public and printed in a prominent location on the bill in boldface type. [2007, c. 104, §1 (NEW).]

3. Franchise document clearinghouse. [1999, c. 581, §2 (RP).]

4. Recording subscriber complaints. Recording subscriber complaints must be as follows.

A. Every franchisee shall keep a record or log of all written complaints received regarding quality of service, equipment malfunctions, billing procedure, employee attitude and similar matters. These records must be maintained for a period of 2 years. [2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]

B. The record must contain the following information for each complaint received:

(1) Date, time and nature of the complaint;

(2) Name, address and telephone number of the person complaining;

(3) Investigation of the complaint;

(4) Manner and time of resolution of the complaint;

(5) If the complaint regards equipment malfunction or the quality of reception, a report indicating corrective steps taken, with the nature of the problem stated; and

(6) Consistent with subscriber privacy provisions contained in the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, Public Law 98-549, every franchisee shall make the logs or records of complaints available to any authorized agent of any franchising authority having a franchise with that franchisee or any authorized agent of a municipality considering a franchise with that franchisee upon request during normal business hours for on-site review. [2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]
[2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]

5. Franchises. All franchises must be nonexclusive. All franchises must include provision for access to, and facilities to make use of, one or more local public, educational and governmental access channels subject to the definitions and requirements of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, Public Law 98-549 or related requirements or regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

[2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]

6. Rights of individuals. A cable system operator may not deny service, deny access or otherwise discriminate against subscribers, channel users or general citizens on the basis of age, race, religion, sex, physical handicap or country of natural origin.

[2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]

6-A. Subscriber privacy. A cable system operator may not intrude upon the privacy of a subscriber by installing or using any equipment that allows the cable system operator to observe or to listen to what is occurring in an individual subscriber's household or to monitor the viewing habits of the subscriber without express, prior written consent of the subscriber. A cable system operator may not sell, disclose or otherwise make available, or permit the use of, lists of the names or addresses of its subscribers, or any list or other information that identifies by name or address subscribers or subscriber viewing habits, to any person or agency for any purpose whatsoever without the prior written consent of the subscriber except that the cable system operator may make such lists available to persons performing services for the cable system operator in connection with its business or operations, such as a billing service, when the availability of such lists is necessary to the performance of such services if, in either case, the persons or entity receiving such lists agree in writing that they will not permit them to be made available to any other party.

[2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]

6-B. Late fees. A cable system operator may not charge a late fee or other penalty or charge for late payment of any bill that exceeds 1.5% per month of the amount due in the bill. If the bill includes separate charges for different levels of service, a late fee or other penalty or charge must be calculated on the total amount overdue for all levels of service and may not be calculated separately for each level of service. A payment is not late under this subsection until

at least 30 days after those services to which the late fee applies have been received by the consumer.

[2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]

7. Penalty. A violation of any provision of this section is a violation of Title 5, chapter 10.

[2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).]

8. Filing of franchise agreements. A cable system operator that maintains a publicly accessible website shall post on that website a copy of the most recently executed franchise agreement for each franchise that it has been granted by a municipality in the State.

[2007, c. 548, §2 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

1989, c. 352, (NEW). 1991, c. 358, (AMD). 1991, c. 657, §1 (AMD). 1993, c. 219, §1 (AMD). 1993, c. 513, §1 (AMD). 1993, c. 676, §§1,2 (AMD). 1999, c. 581, §2 (AMD). 2007, c. 104, §1 (AMD). 2007, c. 548, §2 (AMD).