



RUTHANNE FULLER
MAYOR

City of Newton, Massachusetts

Office of the Mayor

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July 3, 2023

Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Dear Councilors:

I respectfully submit a docket item to your Honorable City Council requesting authorization to appropriate and expend \$200,000 from the Public, Educational and Government (PEG) Access and Cable Related Fund (the "Fund") to the Newton Communications Access Center, Inc. ("NewTV").

The single payment of \$200,000 from the Fund to NewTV will allow the station to balance their FY24 budget with level staffing, cover payments for fixed expenses, maintain a high level of overall service, and provide governmental services including meeting coverage.

The City of Newton derives revenues from franchise fees and capital payments made by Comcast, RCN and Verizon. These are allocated between the City and NewTV pursuant to a grant agreement between the City, acting through its Mayor as cable license Issuing Authority (the "City") and NewTV dated July 23, 2018. NewTV receives eighty percent (80%) of these franchise fee revenues and forty percent (40%) of these capital payments.

On July 11, 2017, the City accepted G.L.c. 44, §53F¾, which established a separate revenue fund known as the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund (the "Fund"). Monies in the Fund are derived solely from the City's portions of franchise fee and capital payments made by the three cable operators in accordance with their franchise agreements. By statute, monies in the Fund shall only be appropriated for cable-related purposes consistent with the franchise agreements, including but not limited to (i) support of public, educational or governmental access cable television services; (ii) monitoring compliance of the cable operators with their franchise agreements; or (iii) preparing for renewal of the franchise agreements.

The Fund currently has a balance of more than \$900,000. The City is in close contact with NewTV as the PEG revenues are diminishing with fewer households using cable. Together we are preparing for a "soft landing" as the revenues decrease. The \$200,000 in this docket item is consistent with the use of PEG Funds to support public, educational, and governmental access cable television services and this financial strategy.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

Perry Rosenfield

From: Bob Kelly <bobk@newtv.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 6:28 PM
To: Mayor Ruthanne Fuller
Cc: Maureen Lemieux; Susan Albright; Jonathan Yeo; Perry Rosenfield
Subject: Revised request

[DO NOT OPEN links/attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Honorable Mayor Fuller,

On behalf of Newton Communications Access Center, Inc. (DBA NewTV), we respectfully request a \$200,000.00 grant/allocation from the PEG Enterprise Fund to replace lost cable related PEG funding to sustain our operation for FY24. The grant request represents the loss of PEG support due to an additional 1,423 cable subscribers jumping to streaming video services.

Below is a worksheet graphic illustrating the negative impact cable television cord cutting has had on NewTV over the past few years and what is projected to occur in FY24. The FY24 anticipated cable subscriber counts, average cable bill per operator and associated PEG revenues earmarked for NewTV are shown in red.

We hope our request for PEG support will be met favorably by you and the City Council as it was last year and the year before.

Respectfully,

Robert S. Kelly
Executive Director

Fiscal Year	Month	Amount	Amount	Variance	Major	Group	Fiscal Year	Month	Amount	Amount	Variance	Major	Group	Fiscal Year	Month	Amount	Amount	Variance	Total Sub	Total Sub	Variance	Combined	
																						Anticipated	Received
FY20	08/15/19	\$ 155,615.6	\$ 156,958.9	\$ 1,343.28	2	159,888.4		08/15/19	\$ 142,746.0	\$ 152,592.6	\$ 9,845.7				08/15/19	\$ 30,104.7	\$ 29,793.7	\$ (311.0)	\$ 326,467.86	\$ 339,343.3	\$ 12,877.95		
	11/15/19	\$ 155,615.6	\$ 155,484.9	\$ 1,868.71	9	159,396.1		11/15/19	\$ 142,746.0	\$ 145,999.1	\$ 3,152.2				11/15/19	\$ 30,104.7	\$ 28,697.3	\$ (1,407.42)	\$ 326,467.87	\$ 330,080.9	\$ 9,613.54		
	11/20	\$ 155,615.6	\$ 155,564.9	\$ 1,948.29	7	158,468.2	\$ 115.44	10/02	\$ 142,746.0	\$ 144,639.5	\$ 1,892.6			\$ 120.15	02/15/20	\$ 30,104.7	\$ 27,749.3	\$ (2,355.48)	\$ 326,467.87	\$ 327,953.8	\$ 1,486.45	\$ 98.40	23612
as of 12/31/19	09/15/20	\$ 155,615.6	\$ 156,762.7	\$ 3,147.05	2	159,631.9		as of 12/31/19	\$ 142,746.0	\$ 190,456.2	\$ (12,290.67)	\$ (10,493.28)			09/15/20	\$ 30,104.7	\$ 29,072.3	\$ (1,032.48)	\$ 326,467.87	\$ 316,291.2	\$ (10,176.08)		
		\$ 614,462.7	\$ 624,771.05	\$ 11,613.1	2	636,394.2			\$ 570,987.6	\$ 578,587.56	\$ 2,599.9	\$ 10,578.52				\$ 120,419.1	\$ 115,312.72	\$ (5,106.40)	\$ 1,305,869.47	\$ 1,315,671.3	\$ 7,801.86		
		\$ 151,542.5	\$ 155,031.1	\$ 3,488.56	2	157,848.1			\$ 192,234.5	\$ 197,041.0	\$ 4,806.5				08/15/20	\$ 27,908.5	\$ 27,681.3	\$ (227.1)	\$ 311,685.61	\$ 319,753.5	\$ 8,067.92		
FY21	11/15/20	\$ 151,542.5	\$ 156,053.1	\$ 4,510.54	5	158,818.1		11/15/20	\$ 192,234.5	\$ 192,864.1	\$ 629.5				11/15/20	\$ 26,738.5	\$ 25,833.6	\$ (909.66)	\$ 310,510.39	\$ 314,530.8	\$ 4,040.47		
	02/15/21	\$ 151,542.5	\$ 152,921.9	\$ 1,379.41	1	155,638.7	\$ 121.80	9059	\$ 192,234.5	\$ 190,309.8	\$ (1,924.6)			\$ 119.87	02/15/21	\$ 25,570.4	\$ 23,942.7	\$ (1,627.79)	\$ 309,347.53	\$ 307,174.5	\$ (2,172.97)	\$ 121.88	21190
	as of 12/31/20	\$ 151,542.5	\$ 153,720.2	\$ 2,177.66	3	156,378.8		as of 12/31/20	\$ 192,234.5	\$ 118,957.2	\$ (73,277.25)	\$ (9,421.36)			05/15/21	\$ 24,395.2	\$ 24,547.1	\$ 151.8	\$ 308,172.91	\$ 297,224.6	\$ (10,947.71)		-10.40%
	\$ 606,170.2	\$ 617,726.42	\$ 11,556.17	4	626,681.8			\$ 528,938.1	\$ 519,372.55	\$ (9,565.77)	\$ (9,421.36)				\$ 104,607.4	\$ 101,804.78	\$ (2,802.69)	\$ 1,238,715.84	\$ 1,238,703.5	\$ (1,012.29)			
FY22	08/15/21	\$ 153,002.7	\$ 153,414.1	\$ 411.34	2	156,020.9		08/15/20	\$ 124,975.1	\$ 124,651.6	\$ (323.5)				08/15/20	\$ 20,511.1	\$ 23,657.8	\$ 3,146.7	\$ 298,489.07	\$ 301,723.6	\$ 3,234.54		
	11/15/21	\$ 152,092.1	\$ 153,960.7	\$ 1,268.62	4	155,909.3		11/15/20	\$ 121,222.0	\$ 126,651.4	\$ 5,429.4				11/15/20	\$ 14,544.6	\$ 22,740.1	\$ 8,195.4	\$ 287,858.85	\$ 302,752.3	\$ 14,893.50		
	02/15/22	\$ 151,181.4	\$ 153,916.1	\$ 2,734.67	9	153,862.9	\$ 193.24	8379	\$ 117,565.8	\$ 127,438.9	\$ 9,873.0			\$ 128.80	02/15/22	\$ 10,927.4	\$ 23,989.6	\$ 13,062.2	\$ 279,074.78	\$ 305,344.7	\$ 26,269.95	\$ 127.13	19256
as of 12/31/21	\$ 150,270.8	\$ 154,404.2	\$ 4,133.4	3	152,935.7		as of 12/31/21	\$ 105,483.7	\$ 115,486.6	\$ 10,002.9	\$ 8,564.4			09/15/21	\$ 7,832.2	\$ 26,018.7	\$ 18,004.3	\$ 263,086.85	\$ 294,509.7	\$ 31,422.86		-8.96%	
	\$ 606,547.2	\$ 617,099.27	\$ 4,414.63	8	618,728.0			\$ 469,746.8	\$ 494,228.72	\$ 24,981.90	\$ 8,564.40				\$ 52,715.3	\$ 93,006.41	\$ 40,000.78	\$ 1,128,509.33	\$ 1,204,330.4	\$ 75,820.85			
FY23	08/15/22	\$ 154,579.0	\$ 156,295.3	\$ 1,716.29	2	158,702.0	\$ 141.85	7980	\$ 121,500.0	\$ 120,906.4	\$ (593.5)			\$ 122.56	08/15/22	\$ 22,250.0	\$ 22,081.1	\$ (168.8)	\$ 298,329.06	\$ 301,689.6	\$ 3,360.57	\$ 159.32	
	11/15/22	\$ 152,609.9	\$ 154,128.4	\$ 1,518.59	8	156,473.2		7982	\$ 120,500.0	\$ 112,276.7	\$ (8,223.2)				11/15/22	\$ 21,750.0	\$ 21,325.3	\$ (424.6)	\$ 294,859.90	\$ 290,075.4	\$ (4,784.50)		
	02/15/23	\$ 150,640.7	\$ 153,557.0	\$ 2,916.34	9	155,856.9	\$ 147.14	7625 as of 12/31/22	\$ 119,500.0	\$ 118,520.6	\$ (979.5)			\$ 129.53	02/15/23	\$ 21,000.0	\$ 22,297.0	\$ 1,297.0	\$ 291,140.74	\$ 294,347.9	\$ 3,194.05	\$ 174.92	17516
as of 12/31/22	\$ 148,671.5	\$ 152,502.3	\$ 3,830.77	8	154,745.0	\$ 148.05	7423	\$ 108,345.0	\$ 107,631.6	\$ (713.5)	\$ 7,930.0			\$ 129.70	09/15/22	\$ 20,000.0	\$ 20,511.4	\$ 511.4	\$ 277,018.98	\$ 280,645.4	\$ 3,628.90	\$ 168.76	-9.00%
	\$ 606,501.2	\$ 616,481.27	\$ 9,979.99	9	625,777.9			\$ 469,845.0	\$ 459,335.32	\$ (10,509.49)	\$ 7,930.00				\$ 85,000.0	\$ 86,175.00	\$ 1,175.00	\$ 1,161,346.28	\$ 1,166,745.3	\$ 5,399.02			
FY24	08/15/23	\$ 150,348.1	-	\$ 150,348.10	4	152,663.2	\$ 148.05	7223	\$ 112,449.9	-	\$ -			\$ 129.70	08/15/23	\$ 19,751.0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 282,549.05	\$ -	\$ (282,549.05)	\$ 168.76	
	11/15/23	\$ 148,326.1	-	\$ 148,326.15	7	150,584.6	\$ 148.05	7025	\$ 109,337.1	-	\$ -			\$ 129.70	11/15/23	\$ 18,970.6	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 276,633.87	\$ -	\$ (276,633.87)	\$ 168.76	
	02/15/24	\$ 146,314.5	-	\$ 146,314.58	1	148,505.9	\$ 148.05	6425 as of 12/31/23	\$ 106,224.8	-	\$ -			\$ 129.70	02/15/24	\$ 18,190.1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 270,729.06	\$ -	\$ (270,729.06)	\$ 168.76	18093
as of 12/31/23	\$ 144,905.2	-	\$ 144,905.24	3	146,427.3	\$ 148.05		\$ 96,013.5	-	\$ -	\$ 7,098.0			\$ 129.70	09/15/24	\$ 18,230.2	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 258,548.94	\$ -	\$ (258,548.94)	\$ 168.76	-8.12%
	\$ 589,294.0	-	\$ 589,294.07	5	598,181.2			\$ 424,024.0	-	\$ -	\$ 7,098.00				\$ 75,142.0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,088,460.92	\$ -	\$ (1,088,460.92)	\$ -	-44% in 10 years	