

City of Spring Hill, Kansas
Minutes of Broadband Task Force
January 29, 2019

A Regular Session of the Broadband Task Force was held January 29, 2019, at the Spring Hill Civic Center, 401 N Madison St, Spring Hill, Kansas. The meeting convened at 7:01 p.m. with Heather Poole recording.

Task Members in attendance: Julia Atwell
Ricardo Cortez
Kyle Griffin
Brian Peel
Carol Thomas

Task Members absent: Gerald Barker and Mark Bye

City Council in attendance: N/A

Staff in attendance: Assistant City Administrator Melanie Landis
Broadband Task Force Secretary Heather Poole
Accountant/I.T. Antwone Smoot

ROLL CALL

Heather Poole called the roll of the Task Force. With a quorum present, the meeting commenced.

DISCUSSION

Ms. Atwell began the meeting with asking a question to the task force, if they have been in contact or know about the fiber going in over in Louisburg by Peoples's Telcom. She was curious about how they are doing it, who's funding etc. Mr. Griffin knows Peoples's Telcom is a La Cygne area telephone company that has applied for grant money for different kinds of projects to include fiber overlay for rural area. Ms. Atwell also added she heard Microsoft is in a test state with assisting communities with fiber and thought it might be beneficial finding out more about this project. Ms. Landis stated City Staff can contact Louisburg on a City level and inquire about this project. Mr. Smoot added communities like Louisburg are able to get grants because they are rural, where Spring Hill is not rural enough to be able to qualify for this type of grant. He stated this is the struggles we are facing. He is wanting to see a change in regulations so we can be eligible for grants.

Ms. Landis updated the task force on the Request for Information (RFI) and provided a draft copy to the group. She requested that the group look over the documents and the areas where she needed their input are; City's vision, project goals, timeline for distribution and possible pre-submittal meeting and letter of intent if it is required or optional. City staff still need to add to the RFI; additional legal language, timeline, contact information, submission questions, appendices and community statistics. If the task

force wants any changes or additions to the RFI they need to contact Ms. Landis via email by February 12, 2019. All were in agreeance with this deadline. The task force discussed the important of the RFI and are eager to see the responses we obtain.

Lastly, Ms. Landis informed the group about an online petition against the City on broadband and the lack there of. She wanted to reiterate to the group that the City does not exclude any providers from coming to Spring Hill and our goal is to have a solid plan for the entire community including residential as well as businesses.

Motion to adjourn: Motioned by Mr. Peel, seconded by Mr. Cortez, Motion carried 6-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Next Meeting: 7 p.m., Tuesday, February 26, 2019, at the Spring Hill Civic Center, 401 N Madison St., Spring Hill, Kansas.