

December 5, 1974

Watertown Township Telephone Commission Meeting

The meeting convened at 2:00 P.M. at City Hall. Present were Ralph Bigot, Helen Fraser, Fred Bieber, Hildor Foss and Richard Perkins.

Mr. Bieber was, with the agreement of all present, appointed as Chairman of the Telephone Commission.

Mr. Bieber then called the meeting to order. Members Bieber, Bigot and Foss are to be voting members of the Commission with members Fraser and Perkins as non-voting members. Perkins is to be responsible for minutes of all meetings.

Following the Telephone Meeting of Nov. 22nd, at which time increasing the installation rates was discussed, Perkins contacted Consolidated and Arvig Telephone to determine their installation rates. Consolidated now charges \$7.50 per trip for Business or Private regardless of the amount of equipment installed. Arvig now charges \$10.00 for the same procedure. Both companies state that they lose money at these rates but hesitate to charge more.

Perkins contacted Mr. Vern Armfield to discuss these figures with him. He suggested we consider the \$7.50 install charge.

Member Foss moved, with second by Bigot, to send a letter to the Public Service Commission stating our desire to make this change and give reasons for the request. All voting aye.

Manhattan Club has been informed of the Council's action to install a pay station inside the business. Perkins has sent a letter outlining the obligations of the Club, which is to be signed and returned before the installation is to be made.

It was mentioned that there are no signed agreements with Riverside, Echo Ridge or the Exchange which have inside pay stations. Perkins is to contact these establishments and secure signed agreements.

There was discussion of areas in the system where it may be difficult to provide service in the near future. Mr. Bigot will work with the telephone men to organize the available information on the outside plant and to gather further information to pin-point these possible problem areas.

Based on the information provided by Vern Armfield concerning the PBX now at Echo Ridge, the following proposal was arrived at:

PBX Rental:	\$47.50/mo.	36mo. Contract
C.O.E. Trunks	11.40/mo.	ea.
Adm. Phones	2.00/mo.	ea.
Guest Phones	1.00/mo.	ea.

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The contract is to include a term liability of 1/36th per month. Perkins is to consult our attorney as to the form of the contract. When this is ready it will be sent to Mrs. Betty Nelson at Manhattan Club for her consideration. If they decide to accept the terms and sign the contract the PBX will be installed in the Club. There is to be no installation charge for this equipment. *(MOTION BY FOSS FOR ABOVE, SECOND BY BIGOT, CARRIED.)*

It was suggested that, to save the company money and also provide better service, the telephone men would be instructed to contact the builders of any new homes and offer to pre-wire the structure at no cost. In order to assist in locating any of these new buildings the Planning Commission will be asked to inform the company of all such permits issued.

John Backdahl attended the session and asked the Commission for suggestions in regard to the Crosslake Police telephone. The present system has some problems in that people are not willing to call long distance to the Sheriff's office or the mobil phone. Several ideas are being brought together and will be considered at the next meeting.

The next scheduled meeting will be January 7, 1975, 2:30 P.M. at City Hall.


R.A. Perkins