



CITY OF SACRAMENTO

19-5

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

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LORRAINE MAGANA
CITY CLERK

December 1, 1982

Robert Smith
Cable TV Commission
700 H Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: CABLE TV FRANCHISE - COUNCIL ACTION ON NOVEMBER 30, 1982

Dear Mr. Smith:

On November 30, 1982, the Sacramento City Council took action to reaffirm its position to have parent corporations assume full fiscal liability for a Cable TV franchise.

Enclosed for your information is a transcript of the discussion and motion regarding this item.

Sincerely,


Lorraine Magana
City Clerk

LM:lm

Enclosure

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Transcript

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ISENBERG Ok then I've got a third item. This may take a little bit more time. On Friday's packet that was handed out was the memo. At Friday's meeting was passed out the memo from the County of Sacramento on Cable TV and in particular the issue of the United Tribune Cable's difficulties with the parent company providing ability to perform and willingness to perform and straining as hard as I possibly can to say that I, to avoid saying that I told you so. And therefore not telling you that. I will only point out to you that, in my opinion, a failure to enforce what was given clearly and unequivocally as a commitment at those hearings would be the relinquishment of the most important enforcement tool anyone could have against a cable company. And the reason I feel strongly on it is because the staff, the county staff asked me to ask each and everyone of those applicants whether it was a paper local corporation with no assets or whether they were the parent corporations who were going to guarantee the performance. And I specifically asked that and there was a lot of strained faces when I did it. But each and everyone of those people said Yes that parent corporations were involved. And I know as a fact that if one applicant had said No, I don't think there would have been a single member of the Board or the Council who would have been willing to support that applicant in the face of all the others saying nothing. And you know, you can argue all you want about movies, rating and double A bonds and all the nonsense that goes with it, the fact of the matter is the commitment has to be clear and unequivocal. And from my, I think the committee, the negotiating committee is going in this direction for which I commend them but I consider that the most serious issue that has yet surfaced on Cable. And from my point of view is not negotiable. Ought not to be negotiable... Ms. Robie.

ROBIE Right. The subcommittee, their position is exactly the same as yours. We have asked, we've said it in a variety of different ways. We have asked for a report back and I think it's kind of inappropriate to decide if, you know, what we're gonna do about it. We don't think it's negotiable either. That the subcommittee's opinion is strong position and we have asked for a report back in 2 weeks and at that time if there are problems we will bring it directly to the Council and Board.

ISENBERG Mrs. Rudin.

RUDIN Yes. I would like to make a motion that this Council reaffirm that position that we took during the franchise process and back up the subcommittee in it's request for that kind of accountability.

ISENBERG You might want...

KASTANIS I suggest that if there's any action by this Council that you reaffirm Item A which is on...

ISENBERG Of the staff memo.

KASTANIS ...staff memo. Because that is the action your subcommittee took Wednesday.

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ISENBERG Let me just read that to you. The recommendation is "that the Council and Board require a contractual commitment and direct letters in their behalf expressing that determination to the corporate presidents of each company. The letters to firmly state that absent the commitments requested the UTC proposal will be rejected."

RUDIN I'll move that.

ISENBERG All right. Is there a second?

SERNA Second.

ISENBERG Second, Mr. Serna. All right. Discussion? Call the roll.

POPE

ISENBERG Mr. Pope.

POPE I don't think we should accept anything short of a resolution from the board of directors from each corporation saying that they're going this....

ISENBERG Yeah. It is a, it is a heavy weight issue. It is not a little issue. It's a major issue. Further comments, questions? Call the roll.

CITY CLERK Connelly

CONNELLY Aye

CITY CLERK Fisher

FISHER Aye

CITY CLERK Kastanis

KASTANIS Aye

CITY CLERK Pope

POPE Aye

CITY CLERK Robie

ROBIE Aye

CITY CLERK Rudin

RUDIN Aye

CITY CLERK Serna

SHORE Aye

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CITY CLERK Shore

SHORE Aye

CITY CLERK Isenberg

ISENBERG Aye

END OF ITEM