

**PUBLIC CABLE ASCERTAINMENT HEARING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
FEBRUARY 3, 2004**

The Board of Selectmen convened a public ascertainment hearing at 7:00pm in the Selectmen's Meeting Room of Town Hall, relative to the renewal of Comcast's cable license with the Town.

Peter Epstein, the Town's legal counsel on cable matters, outlined the history of cable service and the renewal of the cable license, which was originally issued for 15 years.

He noted the need for the renewal to be negotiated by **October 2, 2004**.

He explained the purpose of tonight's hearing.

Richard Norris, Chair of the Cable Advisory Committee, provided the Board an update of the Committee's activities to date.

Chairman Brownsberger opened the hearing to public comment.

Various residents and interested parties made comments.

One resident commented about the lack of cable service to certain business areas.

Another property owner expressed a real concern relative to the visual impact of pedestals throughout the Town.

Lee McCanne, Director of Technology, requested for specific services to be provided by Comcast to the Town and School Buildings.

Another resident commented on the quality of Channel 7.

Another resident urged the inclusion of certain maintenance and customer service standards that are enforceable by the Town with certain penalties for their failure to meet the specified standards.

Another resident complained about the billing documentation that was not customer-friendly.

John Verrilli, Chair of the Cable Access Committee, noted the quality of the audio being transmitted from the cable studio.

Members of the Board made various comments relative to Comcast and its license renewal.

Mr. Foss, Manager of Government/Community Relations for Comcast, provided responses to some of the comments and questions raised.

A formal transcript was taken of the meeting.

The Board of Selectmen moved: to continue the public ascertainment hearing until 7:30 pm, on **March 8, 2004**; and further to keep the record open until such date, as well.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Melvin A. Kleckner, Town Administrator
Clerk of the Board of Selectmen