



City of Peru



David R. Bartley
City Clerk

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PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE OF MEETING: June 12, 2023 TIME: 3:30 PM

PLACE OF MEETING: Peru Municipal Building
1901 4th Street, Peru, IL 61354

ROLL CALL: Chairman, Alderman Lukosus, Alderman Ballard and Moreno present. Alderman Sapienza, absent

MINUTES

First meeting

PRESENTATION

Geneseo Communications gave a presentation. The presenters
Mike McClain, CEO - Mike.McClain@geneseo.com
Shayne Winters, COO - Shayne.Winters@geneseo.com
Kay Croegaert, VP-Marketing - Kay.Croegaert@geneseo.com

Geneseo Telephone Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Geneseo Communications, Inc. (“GCI”), was founded more than 120 years ago as a local exchange carrier to provide telephone service to the majority of Henry County, Illinois. GCI is a for-profit company owned by >400 shareholders. GCI brands its FTTP networks as “FiberMeFast powered by Geneseo Communications”. One of GCI’s main differentiators is our superior ‘buried’ network. Unlike the local telephone company’s network which uses twisted pairs of copper cables or the local cable company’s network which is delivered over coaxial copper cable, GCI’s network is comprised of 100% glass. Our FTTP network transmits our signal at the speed of light, with no electronics that can fail between our central office and the customer's premise.

How FiberMeFast is building out neighborhoods with our Fiber-Optic Network

Step 1: We Design & Engineer

- We will work with the City to obtain GIS mapping.
- Once we have the Peru mapping in our system, we will fully design and engineer the project.
- Once the engineering is finished, we bring it to the local municipality for approval.

Step 2: Permitting and Staking

- We work closely with the City, to obtain permitting and approval to access the utility easement areas.
- Locates are normally called in a week before the project start date and will continue that schedule until the completion of the project.

Step 3: Install Mainline and Drop Conduit

- Mainline conduit and drop conduit will be installed first.
- Normally, the mainline conduit will be bored at a depth of 36 inches. Depth may vary based on underground facilities in the area, but we never go less than 36 inches on mainline.
- Drop conduit will be plowed to the home unless we run into dog fences or sprinkler systems that require a bore to the home. Drop conduit is normally put at a depth of 12-24 inches.

Step 4: Install fiber-optic cable

- Once the conduit is in the ground, we can run and connect the fiber-optic cable to our network.

Step 5: Connect homes and businesses to the network

- Once mainline fiber construction is completed, we start connecting individual homes and businesses to the network.
- We do this by installing a “fiber drop” to the premise.

Step 6: Service is installed

- When the network is ready in your neighborhood, you’ll be invited to arrange an installation time.
- When our tech arrives to install:
 - Our technician will finalize any needed outside work and install an Optical Network Terminal (ONT) on the outside of the home.
 - Lastly, our technician will install a modem inside the home and configure the customers router to connect to our network.

Benefits of Fiber Technology delivered by GCI. Most of us have heard that FTTP is “better,” but what does that really mean for Peru?

Symmetrical Speed...GCI’s FTTP internet is not an “up to” service like the cable modem service, whatever speed you sign up for is the speed you will actually get for downloading and uploading data. Our GIG service is 10 to 20 times speedier than the 50 to 100 Mbps cable modem.

No throttling / No sharing ...Have you ever noticed your internet slows when you need it most? At night when all the kids are home using multiple connected devices. That’s because cable service is delivered over a shared connection. The more users on... the more bandwidth demanded. To control that ‘shared’ connection during peak times, Cable internet providers use “throttling”. This method may lower your speed to ration their service. With FTTP there is no need for throttling because it’s a dedicated service delivery.

Connecting with multiple devices...Gone are the days of the “household computer.” We now have multiple devices in our homes, from laptops to PCs to tablets, phones, smart speakers, smart home locks, thermostats, and cameras. As our online use increases, our need for reliable and fast Internet does, too.

Safety...Faster connections make our world a safer place. Peru’s first responders need fast, reliable internet to help them save lives. FTTP provides residents better access to emergency services and more reliable notification in times of disaster.

Fiber can save you money...Cut the cord and save \$. A recent study published by Cord Cutter news says the average cord cutter saves \$92/month. That’s > \$1,100 per year.

Increased home value...Per a Carnegie Mellon study, FTTP increases home values an average of >3.4% or \$10,200 on a \$300k home.

Competitive Pricing and High-Quality Residential Sales and Service Team

- Customer Service Specialist are the primary point of contact for residential customers.
 - Introduce and explain service offerings including broadband, phone (local and long distance)
 - Register new customers for service and schedule appointments
 - Provide tier-1 support; re-program modems; escalate trouble tickets; reduce truck rolls
 - Promote services based upon technology needs, prior purchases, and location

GCI plans to open a store front in Peru. Interactions are in-person, over the phone, through social media, via email, or online chat.

Sales and marketing strategies are focused on growing the FTTP customer base utilizing a mixture of tactics.

- Marketing collateral advertising products, and promotional offers
- Direct mail, target mass media, and digital channels
- 24x7 online registration via FiberMeFast includes service address verification intelligence

What GCI has done in other communities and why we believe our approach is superior to other providers.

We consider ourselves a guest in your community and want to partner with you to make Peru a CERTIFIED GIGABIT CITY! We take a transparent approach:

- Estimated build timelines
- Appointment of a dedicated Project Manager for municipality level contact
- Share planned communications for Peru residents.
- 24 x 7 onboarding site that includes construction process details, interactive maps that shows city sectors and construction progress as well as frequently asked questions

What this project will bring to the City of Peru

- **Economic Growth & Quality Jobs...**Expanded access to high-speed Internet is key for any community to help generate economic growth and support job creation. GCI's FTTP network will position Peru to attract new business and retain citizens, especially those working from home.
- **Future Proof Assurance...**GCI's current FTTP service provides 10-Gigabit symmetrical speed, positioning Peru for today's needs and tomorrow's demands!

Mike McClain explained that Peru in one of four communities they are considering working with. Mike noted that one of the positives with Peru is our existing fiber backbone. Mike explained they would use basically one strand of our fiber.

Clerk Bartley asked about the rest of the fiber and the maintenance. Mike McClain stated it would be ours to use and maintain, but they, GCI, would have access to all accounts.

Alderman Payton asked if the City would get a portion of the charges to their Peru accounts. Mike McClain stated that would not be the case.

Corporate Counsel, Scott Schweickert, noted some of his research indicated the inclusion of ongoing maintenance fees and/or right of way fees by the foot. Mike McClain stated they did not have any such agreements currently.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IT

Stephen Rounds, Director of IT, reported the following:

- A new copier has been ordered for the Public Services building and it will be the same as the one in Engineering and Zoning
- There is another new copier that needs to be ordered for the Clerk's and Finance office.
- We need to order a new server for the electric department, and he is getting quotes.
- Met with Seico Security and is coordinating the upgrades to the door card security systems. Also, Seico will be fixing the panic alarm system.
- Cameras are up in Washington Park and working.
- Planning on cameras at the new Icehouse.

WATER & SEWER

Clerk Bartley reported on the proposed agreement with Ferguson to use their cloud based, water meter replacement software. The water department installation crew will carry tablets loaded with meter number and the process for swapping out a service. The software will prompt them to inspect, take pictures, and identify the size and type of service line. This will assist with identifying lead line services. Admin personnel will see the dashboard on their desktops and load the information into our utility billing software. Clerk Bartley noted the cost is \$15.00 per meter and will be billing based on the number of meters we install.

Jeff King, Public Services Manager, reviewed the maintenance and repair / service records for Vactor truck. Jeff outlined the history and uses of the truck. Jeff compared the hours of use to the annual costs of operation. Jeff compared the annual costs of operation to the outsourcing of Vactor services. Jeff explained that he worked closely with Alderman Jeff Ballard to evaluate the replacement lease proposal and the maintenance agreement terms. Alderman Ballard believes the terms a favorable for the City and the guaranteed value of over \$260,000 and the end of the five-year lease is good, and machine will be maintained at a high standard. The committee was in favor of moving forward with the purchase. Finance Officer, Tracy Mitchell, asked about further investigating the lease interest rate. Tracy noted the current John Deere financing rate of 6%.

T.E.S.T.

None

AIRPORT

Mayor Kolowski commented that he believes the airport terminal building is in need of renovations. Mayor Kolowski stated there is currently \$60,000 in the budget for improvements. Mayor Kolowski proposed adding an additional \$100,000 from the hotel motel tax fund to pay for the renovations. The Committee was in favor and noted the many visitors to Peru the airport and that terminal building in their first impression.

Mayor Kolowski proposed adding a fireworks display to the annual TBM event on the Friday. Mayor Kolowski suggested adding \$30,000 from the hotel motel tax fund to pay for the firework. Tracy Mitchell, Finance Officer, noted the airport fund is already running a \$250,000 deficit. Tracy

explained how the cash from the hotel / motel fund could pay for the project but note improve the overall health of the fund.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

none

STREETS & ALLEY

none

ELECTRIC

Corporate Counsel, Scott Schweickert, commented on the proposed Cost of Service Study/Rate Study through BHMG in the amount of \$37,700.00. Scott noted this study dovetails with the electric infrastructure study and will evaluate all rate classifications for fairness. Clerk Bartley noted the component of the study that will evaluate the impact of large power users. Alderman Lukosus recommended getting input from Eric Carls and place on the next Regular agenda for further discussion.

ENGINEERING

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CLOSED SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Ballard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Morena seconded the motion; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.