

**City of Alexandria, Virginia**  
**Commission on Information Technology**

**May 17, 2021 IT Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**7:00 – 8:30 PM**  
**Virtual Meeting**

**In attendance:** Catharine Rice (CR), Chris Soghoian (CS), Brandon Mosoriak (BM), Ricardo Alfaro (RA), Sara Crifasi (SC), Marcus Washington (MW), J.D. Maddox (JM), Chris Lewis (CL), Darrlynn Franklin (DF), Michelle Rief (MR), Lynda Bennett (LB)

**Staff:** Steve Chozick, Smail Farid, Tori Butler, Patrick Eze

**Absent:** Sundar Kanagarajan, John Szczech, Marcus Washington

**Guests:** Members of Public attended (???)

**1. Welcome/Introductions**

**2. Approval/Amendment of April 19, 2021 minutes** – Motion by CL, seconded by RA, minutes approved by unanimous vote.

Amendments

- City's backbone consists of two 2 in. conduits, two 3 in. conduits in Potomac Yard sidewalks to the buildings, then two 4 in. conduits in the buildings
- T&ES is who to contact regarding 'one dig', not P&Z

**3. Update on City's fiber backbone project (Steve Chozick, Patrick Eze and Smail Farid)**

- All of the money is approved to complete the project
- Jones Utility is currently working through the schedule and plan
- Hiring of construction and inspection contractors is underway
- RFQ was used for this project
- CS: Are we extending our contract with Comcast? We are due to timing of construction.
- CS: Is City using E-Rate funding for any of this work? DPI will take over after construction begins, this is a question for them.
- CS: Will the City be the ISP for the schools and library after this project is complete? The schools are on a totally separate network. The schools will be connected via fiber laterals. The library is on the City's WAN but has their own ISP. There is flexibility being built into the system. There are options to share ISP, to share network resources, or for status quo.
- CR: If the project is done early, will we move ahead with pulling fiber earlier? All conduit will be built before any fiber is pulled. We can start removing Comcast sites earlier if possible.
- CS: Are we physically connected to Arlington County? We are connected at Potomac Yard. We currently share 911 and CAD (Computer-Aided Dispatch) with Arlington Co.

**4. Digital Equity Plan Committee**

- CR: Talked with Vanetta Pledger to see if money is available for this initiative through ARPA
- Vanetta is going to talk to the City's equity officer to see who will be in charge of this initiative.

**5. Legislative Committee**

- Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) is live from last Wednesday.
- SC will add a list of providers in VA to her spreadsheet.
- CR is looking into if Verizon and AT&T are making customers sign up for a different service if using EBB.

**6. Adjourn by unanimous vote at 8:30pm. (Next meeting is via Zoom September 16, 2021).**