

COUNCIL PRESIDENT-JENNIFER WASILK
COUNCIL AT LARGE-DAVID JANIK
COUNCIL AT LARGE-MARTIN HEBERLING
COUNCIL AT LARGE- CHUCK WINIARSKI

COUNCIL WARD ONE-BRIAN DEMBINSKI
COUNCIL WARD TWO-BECKY HARMYCH
COUNCIL WARD THREE-JAKE WACHHOLZ
COUNCIL WARD FOUR-MATT NAHORN

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Minutes of the Building and Committee Meeting held May 19, 2025, at 7:15 P.M. Present in Council Chambers were Chairman Janik, Mr. Heberling, Mr. Dembinski, Ms. Harmych, Mr. Winiarski, Mr. Nahorn, Mr. Wachholz, Mayor Costilow, Auditor Phillips, Treasurer Ramsey, Law Director Pecora, Safety/Service Jeffreys, Assistant Law Director Ward. Also present representing Lumos were Mr. George Kemp, Director - Construction Relations, Mr. Steve Kriston, Director of Market Development, with their address being 4100 Mendenhall Oaks Parkway, Ste. 300, Hight Point, N. C. 27265.

A-25-20 Lumos Fiber Optic Internet Service - who are proposing a citywide build out to provide high speed fiber optic internet service through pole attachments and underground directional boring s needed.

Mr. Winiarski asked to recuse himself from this meeting. His ethics group agrees, this creates a conflict of interest for him. Mr. Heberling motioned to recuse Mr. Winiarski from participation. Mr. Janik said Mr. Heberling was referring to Rule 13 which we have gone over and council has been made aware of this via e mails and approved by Law Director Pecora. A unanimous vote of Council is needed to recuse him from this. Seconded by Mr. Nahorn. Roll call vote 7-0 to recuse Mr. Winiarski. Chair Janik asked Mr. Winiarski to step into the hallway during this discussion. Chair Janik introduced Mr. Kristen who provided a background of himself and his company. He explained how streaming came about. He spoke further about fiber and electronics and how they work. Their company will provide faster and more efficient fiber. He suggested that prices may go down even when staying with their present internet service. He explained how their business works and the kind of service customers should and will expect.

Mr. George Kemp, Director of construction relations with address as listed above spoke about taking care of the residents and our city and how they go about doing that.

Mayor Costilow spoke and explained how far technology has come along. He explained how the poles are accessed and used. There are some extra protections for us in this agreement. He welcomes it and says the more competition the better. However, it is one of the biggest headaches the Administration has, when sewer lines, water lines, someone else's servers are hit and they are out for a week. Those are some of the complications. He understands it hard to push these wires though without hitting anything else. Sooner or later we are going to run out of room in our right of ways.

So each time this pole agreement gets more complicated. We have to start thinking about that. He said it sounds good and he will keep the company to a lot of those things. He spoke positively about the fiber being installed. This is where the future is. He wondered what happens with the fiber in 20 years? Mr. Kemp explained. He said the fiber is good for all of our lifetimes; it's just the electronics at the ends to make things faster. Mayor Costilow said people get excited about these new things, but when a neighbor gets one of these things in their yard, they are not always happy and complain. Mr. Kemp said most of their equipment is underground and one "flowerpot" services two homes. And those are small in size and flat on the ground. He explained further regarding the equipment; 90% of it is underground. Mayor Costilow ask if this is just an informational thing or was there an "ask." Further discussion on how the work will proceed by Mr. Kriston.

Mr. Heberling asked what the difference was with the internet fibers. Mr. Kriston explained that copper is the wire used for phone lines, co-ax is the cable that you plug in the back of the TV, while fiber uses special coating on the inside to keep it from bouncing around. But it will definitely be faster. He explained further. Mr. Kemp also explained. Mr. Heberling said then he understands that fiber is the best of the three.

Mr. Nahorn said he understands that the majority of the Infrastructure will be underground? Mr. Kemp explained that poles will be faster, but wherever they have to, the infrastructure will be placed underground. He spoke further.

Mr. Dembinski said he'd had questions and reached out to the Building Department and Law Department about a couple of things, and they were all answered. He is pleased with the answers. He asked that the agreement identify the pedestals vs. the flowerpots. The pedestals are a big nuisance.

Chair Janik asked if the ends of the driveways concrete will be matched, as this has been a problem in the past. Mr. Kemp said typically these should not be damaged unless there are utilities running under them. He explained.

Mrs. Wasilk asked if we now have three fiber optic companies in town? Mayor was not sure, he said he can't keep up with them. Mrs. Wasilk noted that it was very hard to find someone to talk to with these companies. They do not want to hear any complaints and that is not a good position to be in when they come back and ask us for something. She likes their idea of them coming back to Council with updates. She gave examples of problems. Mr. Kemp distributed cards with their contact information.

Mr. Dembinski asked how to find the other information. Mr. Kemp they will have a daily street sheet that will provide the information. They are all about communication.

Mr. Heberling spoke to the driveways and the residents do not expect their total driveway to be replaced, but they expect them to look nice and as close as possible within reason. He spoke to a resident who has a large cap in his yard. His yard is a mess and he wants it fixed. He asked if Lumos had done any work in the city. The answer was "no." Mr. Kemp said to let them know and they would try to help.

Mr. Dembinski motioned to take this to the floor of Council. Seconded by Mr. Wachholz. Vote 6-0 to send to the floor of Council.

Mr. Winiarski was asked to return to Chambers.

Mr. Wachhol motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Nahorn. Voice vote 7-0 to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

Dave Janik, Chairman
Police and Fire Committee