

**A Public Hearing to allow public input on the Adelphia Cable Franchise Contract was held Thursday, August 1, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. at the Brighton Town Hall, Paul Smiths, NY, with the following:**

**PRESENT:** Council Members: Alicia Bodmer, Deputy Supervisor  
Linda Dobson  
John Quenell  
Steve Tucker

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Elaine Sater-Town Clerk, Mr. Al Sutphen-Adelphia Cable Company

**RESIDENTS:** There were 7 resident present

**ABSENT:** Supervisor (Vacant)

Public Hearing was **Called to Order** by Deputy Supervisor Alicia Bodmer at **6:35 p.m. for the Purpose of public input on the Adelphia Cable Franchise Contract with the Town of Brighton.**

**Public Notice** was published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise on Thursday, July 25, 2002 and posted at the three local post offices and local businesses and on Town Clerk's Sign Board at the Town Hall.

**The Floor was opened for discussion and this is a summary of the discussion:**

**Mr. Al Sutphen from Adelphia Cable** expressed his apologies for missing the last public hearing. He gave an update on the bankruptcy proceedings of the company. They have filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection and have reorganized the management of the company. The Rigas family has been arrested and no longer operates the company. A new financial arrangement has been made. Mr Stuphen's family has managed the company in Saranac Lake since 1956 and he has worked with company since 1962. Mr Stuphen cares about his customers and he is saddened that the local company is connected through ownership to the Rigas family.

**John Quenell:** Is Adelphia the third largest cable company? .

**Al Stuphen:** No it is the fifth. The company would like to get financing and continue as Adelphia. Parts of the company will probably be sold off. The franchise agreement has to able to be signed over to another company if it gets sold.

**Alicia Bodmer:** The residents on White Pine Road would like a line put in for their use.

**Al Sutphen:** The contract uses 15 houses per mile as a basis for absorbing the cost of \$20,000 to put in line, usually 25 houses per mile is used. There are only 5 homes on the road and Adelphia could not absorb this cost for so few houses. The cable has to be fiber optic because a coaxil cable won't go that far. He will take another look at the cost and will have to get corporate approval to add to the contract.

**John Quenell:** Can a 500' line extension be run to the Town Hall so a website can be added for the Town?

**Al Sutphen:** Yes a line can be dropped to the Town Hall and a website can be added at a monthly cost.

**Tom Willis-Garondah Road-Rainbow Lake:** Were corrections to contract from last meeting noted in the contract?

**John Quenell:** The corrections were incorporated and the modified contract was sent to the NY Department of Public Service (NYDPS). They sent back more changes. Al Sutphen was notified of the recommendations

**Al Sutphen:** Will call the NYDPS and set up a meeting to discuss their changes. He doesn't agree with some of them, especially the public access items.

**Tom Willis:** How are items chosen to be on the Public Access Channel 2? There seems to be for profit advertisements.

**Al Sutphen:** Most items e-mailed or mailed in are put on the Channel 2; there are no hard and fast rules for the advertising. Blatant ads for-profit are not run but not-for-profit ads are run. He will check with the Public Access Coordinator to see about the for-profit advertising. They try to be flexible on Channel 2. The Video Club at the Saranac Lake High School runs the Government Access Channel (GAC) 22. In Tupper Lake the Chamber of Commerce runs the GAC.

**There were no further comments from the public.**

**Motion to Adjourn the Public Hearing** was made by Deputy Supervisor Alicia Bodmer at 6:55 p.m., second by John Quenell; Aye 4, Vacant 1 (Supervisor)

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine W. Sater  
Brighton Town Clerk