

At more than one City Council meeting, resident Roy Riffel has stated during public comment that City staff were aware that RG Fiber wanted to provide internet in the City of Spring Hill and did nothing to work with RG Fiber.

The documentation below represents conversations with Mike Bosch of RG Fiber, or about RG Fiber doing business with the City, by City Staff involved in the RFP Process.

Staff: Jim Hendershot, Melanie Landis, Antwone Smoot, Councilwoman Andrea Hughes

Prepared: May 27, 2020

Date	Event or Conversation Details	Staff Involved
May 30, 2017	<p>Mike Bosch, with RG Fiber, attended the Broadband Task Force meeting. The Task Force offered an opportunity for Mr. Bosch to introduce himself and his company during the meeting.</p> <p>After the meeting we introduced ourselves to Mr. Bosch. Mr. Bosch explained that he was attending to find out more about the Broadband Task Force and the process. Mr. Bosch further explained how his company technology differs from the typical landline internet, that RG Fiber is based in Baldwin City, and that their business model is to invest \$2-\$3M into a pocket within a community and then allow that initial investment to build before continuing to expand within that community. Mr. Bosch did not indicate that he was interested in doing business in Spring Hill at this time. He was invited to talk about broadband as an education resource at the next Broadband Task Force meeting.</p>	Antwone Smoot Melanie Landis
June 27, 2017	<p>Mike Bosch made a presentation to the Broadband Task Force, at their invitation.</p> <p>Mr. Bosch provided the Task Force with a list of items he believes should be taken into consideration when bringing fiber networks into small towns. Included were: Pros and cons of the traditional fiber network in small cities; Public/private partnerships are an integral part of fiber projects unless solely</p>	Broadband Task Force Antwone Smoot, in attendance Melanie Landis, in attendance Andrea Hughes, in attendance Heather Poole, in attendance

	<p>funded by the municipality; Currently in the United States 34,000 towns with a population under 7,000, approximately 23,000 Americans, are underserved in fiber/internet; Prosperity follows bold leadership; Economic model for overbuilding fiber in a community; Don't get caught up in technology, get fiber in the ground; Put conduit in the ground when doing any kind of utility development; Don't let politics get in the way of the project moving forward; Cyber security is a big deal right now; 100% built out is a large capital investment; Evaluate the risk.</p>	
January 29, 2019	<p>Mike Bosch attended the Broadband Task Force meeting.</p> <p>After the meeting, we spoke with Mr. Bosch who indicated he was there to see where the Task Force was in their process. He indicated that he (RG Fiber) would not be responding to an RFI. Our understanding of the reasons to not submit an RFI were that they require a lot of effort to complete and ultimately the creative ideas could be used by anyone. His preference was to respond to an RFP.</p>	<p>Melanie Landis, ACA Antwone Smoot, IT</p>
Week of March 4, 2019	<p>Staff met with Mike Bosh of RG Fiber at the Spring Hill Civic Center, South end of Council Chambers. Discussions were centered on the Task Force process and to see if RG Fiber had any future route coming to or towards Spring Hill, KS.</p>	<p>Antwone Smoot, IT</p>
May 9, 2019	<p>Staff met with Mike Bosh of RG Fiber and a USD 230 staff member to discuss a potential cost sharing opportunity on labor and conduit on Lone Elm/Veterans Park project since RG Fiber was doing work in/near the city limits.</p>	<p>Antwone Smoot, IT</p>
May 16, 2019	<p>Staff met with Mayor and City Attorney to share conversation with Mike Bosch of RG Fiber. Staff was seeking advice on how to change approach from an RFI to an RFP. Staff was seeking advice on how to approach request from RG Fiber on inclusion of a Non-Disclosure Agreement in RFP.</p>	<p>Frank Jenkins, City Attorney Jim Hendershot, Administrator Melanie Landis, ACA Antwone Smoot, IT Ashley Wood, Admin Asst Steven Ellis, Mayor</p>

<p>May 21, 2019</p>	<p>Staff met with Mike Bosch of RG Fiber at the Spring Hill Civic Center, Conference Room. Mr. Bosch reported that RG Fiber consists of two companies, one performing construction and one providing fiber internet service. RG Fiber was under contract to construct a project located south of Spring Hill and would be constructing fiber through or around Spring Hill with or without an RFP. Mr. Bosch was interested in knowing where the city stood on an RFP or whether the city had given any more thought to the route for connecting the facilities and whether there was any interest in cost sharing construction through Spring Hill. Staff told Mr. Bosch that we had considered moving toward an RFP instead of an RFI and were not yet sure of where the city stood on the capital project of laying fiber between city facilities. Mr. Bosch offered that he was concerned with sharing confidential information through an RFP bid process and suggested that he would feel more comfortable submitting information with a non-disclosure agreement in place. The meeting concluded with an assurance that staff would talk further about how the City and RG Fiber could work together where it made sense for construction.</p> <p><b><i>From this point forward, all conversations with RG Fiber about internet service were between the Mayor and Community Development Director Patrick Burton outside of the RFP Review Process.</i></b></p>	<p>Jim Hendershot, Administrator Melanie Landis, ACA Antwone Smoot, IT</p>
<p>November 21, 2019</p>	<p>Telephone conference to review RFP Response. Discussion included reference to Gardner model, symmetrical and even balanced speeds, lack of timeline for full buildout, lack of conduit separation for city infrastructure, equipment staging and water resources.</p>	<p>Antwone Smoot, IT Jim Hendershot, City Administrator Melanie Landis, ACA Andrea Hughes, Council member</p>
<p>From May 29, 2019 – January 2020</p>	<p>City staff communicated with Tyler Baker of RG Fiber on the Veterans Park project off and on over 8 months (Conduit route, material, maps/plans, cost, timeline)</p>	<p>Antwone Smoot, IT</p>

January 17, 2020	Brief conversation with Mike Bosch following a City Council meeting. Mr. Bosch shared his opinion the RFP submitted by RG Fiber was misrepresented	Andrea Hughes, Council Member Jim Hendershot, City Administrator
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