

SUBSTITUTE ORDINANCE NO. 66-96

By: Anne H. Porter

An Ordinance to amend the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bexley, Ohio, by adding Chapter 284 to create a Technology Commission.

WHEREAS, the City recognizes information systems as an important part of the City infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 places additional regulations and responsibilities on local governments regarding existing and new technologies; and

WHEREAS, the City franchises cable television service and would benefit from the establishment of a commission to assist Council in exercising its responsibilities with respect to the regulation and oversight of cable service; and

WHEREAS, it is important to identify ways to better utilize technology for the benefit of the City and the community; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEXLEY, OHIO:

Section 1. That the Codified Ordinances of the City are hereby amended by the addition of Chapter 284 as follows:

CHAPTER 284

TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

284.01 ESTABLISHMENT AND MEMBERSHIP.

(a) There is established in and for the City a Technology Commission consisting of five voting members, appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by Council, in accordance with Section 8(f) of the City Charter. In addition, upon recommendation of the voting members of the Commission, non-voting members may be appointed to represent community organizations with an interest in technology issues affecting the public sector. Non-voting members shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by Council. To the extent practicable, voting members shall possess expertise in the area of cable, networking, telephone, computer and/or other relevant technologies.

(b) Voting members shall serve for a term of three years. Initially, one member shall be appointed for a term of one year; two members shall be appointed for a term of two years; and two members shall be appointed for a term of three years.

(c) Non-voting members shall serve a one year term and may serve successive terms.

(d) All voting members shall be residents of the City.

284.02 ORGANIZATION.

(a) The Commission shall select one voting member as Chairperson and one voting member as Vice Chairperson. The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson shall each serve for a one year term and may serve successive terms as such.

(b) All Commission members shall serve without compensation. Vacancies caused by death, resignation, removal or otherwise, shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as original appointments are made.

(c) The Commission shall meet regularly at such time and place as it shall decide and shall meet at such special meetings as shall be called by the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson after twenty-four hours notice to each member. The Commission may appoint committees comprised of not less than three members, at least one of whom is a voting member, to consider specific issues. All meetings shall be open to the general public, except as provided by Chapter 223.

(d) The Commission shall adopt rules to govern the conduct of its business.

(e) The Mayor shall designate City employee(s) or other person(s) to provide the Commission administrative assistance.

(f) The Commission shall periodically report its findings and activities to Council and the public.

284.02 DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS.

The Commission shall:

(a) Investigate present and emerging forms of technology, evaluate their usefulness to City government and the community and recommend appropriate action to Council.

(b) Develop a comprehensive technology plan that assists City officials and other public officials to evaluate, acquire and utilize existing and future technologies to improve public services and otherwise further community interests. Such plan shall include:

(i) The establishment of short-term and long-term needs and goals of City government and the community,

(ii) The identification of the most appropriate technology to meet such needs and goals, and

(iii) The recommendation of specific action steps to implement that technology plan.

(c) Review cable television service and make recommendations thereon to Council.

(d) Adopt and administer regulations with respect to basic cable service consistent with regulations adopted by the Federal Communications Commission (the "FCC"), review and investigate complaints of subscribers to cable television service and hold hearings thereon, and file complaints with the FCC on behalf of cable subscribers in accordance with regulations adopted by the FCC.

(e) Consider and advise Council upon request on technology issues within the Commission's jurisdiction.

Section 2. That this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed: December 12, 1996



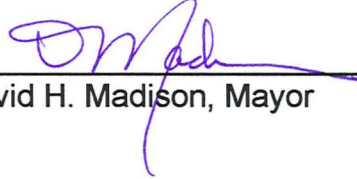
President of Council

Attest:



Clerk of Council

Approved: 12/19, 1996



David H. Madison, Mayor