

A RESOLUTION

directing the City Manager to execute a new contract with VidWest to provide public access channel programming and community media services.

WHEREAS, in response to an RFP for community media services issued by the City, the City and VidWest executed a contract for the provision of services, which included operating a public access channel and community media center, on October 11, 2019 (the “Contract”); and

WHEREAS VidWest asked Mediacom to install a fiber connection to 1600 Business Loop 70 East immediately after taking occupancy in January 2020, and paid a fee of \$7,677.03 to Mediacom immediately after receiving a quote in June 2021, and yet fiber has still not been installed thereby making it impossible for VidWest to operate a public access cable channel; and

WHEREAS the City of Columbia declared a State of Emergency on March 16, 2020, finding that proactive and extraordinary measures were necessary to prevent community spread of the COVID-19, and issued a Stay-at-Home Order on March 25, 2020, requiring all residents to stay at home except for special allowances; and

WHEREAS VidWest continued to fulfil many aspects of its scope of services including operating a community media center, providing video equipment rental and training in relevant skills, and pioneering new technology by developing “livestream rigs” with which VidWest has provided a public access programming via the Internet; and

WHEREAS VidWest has been unable to fulfill all of the terms of the Contract for services (specifically, operating a public access cable channel) because of Mediacom’s failure to install a fiber connection; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has relieved VidWest from any further obligations under the terms and conditions of the Contract; and

WHEREAS in the FY 2022 budget the City Council has allocated \$35,000.00 in the miscellaneous contractual line item for programming a public access channel together with providing other related community media services; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to enter into a new services agreement with VidWest as the designated service provider to provide the services set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby directs the City Manager to enter into a new agreement to provide services with VidWest to provide the services as set forth in "Exhibit A." Such agreement shall be in substantially the form as set forth in "Exhibit B."

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2021.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Counselor