

**NEW YORK MILLS CITY COUNCIL**

**Public Hearing Regarding Ordinance 133,  
Franchise Agreement with MIDCO**

**March 14, 2023  
5:15 p.m.**

The Public Hearing was opened at 5:15 p.m.

**Members Present** Maki, Hetland, Nesland, Hammond & Grotheer

**Members Absent**

**Staff Present** City Clerk Julie Roberts, Administrative Assistant Cheri Kopveiler, Public Works Superintendent Kyle Mattson, Police Chief Bobby Berndt

**Guests Present** Jordan Stephens, MIDCO, NYM Dispatch reporter Chad Koenen, Amy Tervola-Hultberg

**Call to Order** The Public Hearing was called to order at 5:15 p.m. A quorum was present.

There was one person from the general public present at the meeting. No comments or concerns were presented to the City Clerk. Proper notice was given via both posted and published public notice.

Jordan Stephens from MIDCO addressed the Council. Their proposed project was planned for 2023, but will need to be pushed out to 2024, with construction taking place in the spring/summer of 2024 if a franchise agreement is adopted. Next winter, prior to construction MIDCO would meet with the City and construction contractors. The project encompasses the city limits and would add 52 miles of long haul fiber. Nesland asked if they plan to move beyond city limits. Stephens indicated their focus now is in the city, but they would look at expanding beyond those limits in the future. MIDCO is in year 3 of their build in Detroit Lakes.

Stephens commented that MIDCO loves getting involved in the communities they serve. They look forward to being a part of New York Mills.

Clerk Roberts reported that the federal government requires new utility companies coming in to follow the same contract as existing providers. Therefore, the proposed franchise agreement would mirror Arvig's and end in May of 2025 when both contracts expire. Moving forward from this, new terms could be negotiated. Stephens asked if there were any questions or concerns.

With no comments or concerns brought forward, Mayor Maki thanked everyone present.

**The public hearing was closed at 5:20 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by,

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Julie A. Roberts  
City Clerk  
(Notes taken and typed by Cheri Kopveiler, Administrative Assistant)