

# *State & Commerce Committee - Board of Representatives*

Brien Buckman, Chair

## **Committee Report**

Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2015
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: Democratic Caucus Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT

The State & Commerce Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Buckman and Committee Member Reps. Fedeli, Pratt and Watkins. Absent or excused were Committee Members Heaphy, Quinones and Summerville. Also present were Thomas Madden, Director of Economic Development; Donna Hamzy, Frontier Communications Corp.; and Mike Doyle, GBA.

Chair Buckman called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

### ltem No.

#### Description

### Committee Action

1. SC29.029 REVIEW; Municipal Broadband Initiatives and CTgig. **REPORT MADE** 10/07/15 – Submitted by Rep. Buckman 10/28/15 – Held in Committee 11/30/15 – Held until 12/9/15

Mr. Madden gave a quick synopsis of this initiative among municipalities to get fiber optics and broadband into municipalities in CT.

- They have been looking at a public/private partnership to allow the infrastructure to be built and owned by a consortium.
- He is waiting for more information about the cost.
- Both Hartford and New Haven have moved forward with an interlocal agreement and a resolution
- Stamford would have to enter into an interlocal agreement with neighboring communities and create a board to oversee the project and a feasibility study
- The costs would be shared
- They would use a public/private partnership and would lease out to private ISPs in order to fund it
- This would attract companies that need high speed transfers, such as Digital media companies and hedge funds, to Stamford
- He will come back to the Boards in February, after he gets the costs, with a proposed resolution
- Another goal is to have community-wide wifi

- The municipality would own the infrastructure, but the contractor would be responsible for maintenance and upgrades
- 2. SC29.031 REVIEW; 2016 State Legislative Initiatives. **HELD** 11/03/15 – Submitted by Rep. Buckman

Chair Buckman adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Brien Buckman, Chair

This meeting is on video.