

**Nemont Franchise
COMMITTEE MEETING**

April 13, 2026, 2:00 PM @ City Hall

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE	Peyton Brookshire, Cherrie McAlexander, Dennis Holten, Tim Mayo, Ryan Addis and Joe Morse
SIDELINE IN PERSON	Scott Paul with Nemont
MINUTES	NONE
PUBLIC COMMENT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS:	NONE
	<p>Ryan explained what was in the packet that was provided for the meeting. Ryan explained that the whole idea is to take all the franchise agreement examples in the packet and decide what the committee wants to see and doesn't want to see in a franchise agreement with Nemont. Ryan will use this information to put together a franchise agreement to present to the council. The examples included a franchise agreement that Nemont sent to the city. Ryan asked Peyton if there was anything that he wanted to see in the agreement. Peyton discussed the franchise agreement that was sent to the city from Nemont and some of the changes he would like to see in that agreement. Most of the changes had to do with rights-of-ways and keeping fiber away from the city's utilities in section 2. Some of the other changes had to do with permit requirements in section 3. Another change that Peyton wanted was to add GIS requirements. Peyton discussed the requirement that Nemont would have to move any fiber at their expense if it became in the way due to a future city infrastructure project. Scott asked if there were any current projects that Peyton knew of that this might happen. Peyton said no. Dennis gave an example of this happening in the past when Northwestern Energy had to move some of their gas lines due to the city putting in new storm drainpipes. There was some discussion about how long and in-depth this franchise agreement needed to be. Ryan talked about the different examples of the agreements that were presented to the committee and stated that some were very long and detailed and he didn't think that this one needed to be a very long. Peyton and Dennis agreed. Ryan stated that the franchise agreement example from Glasgow didn't look like a bad one to reference. Cherrie mentioned that the Glasgow Nemont Franchise Agreement has been around for close to 40 years. Ryan suggested using this agreement along with Peytons changes and create a first draft of the franchise agreement. Ryan stated that another topic that needs to be discussed and decided is a franchise fee. A lot of cities have a franchise fee included in their agreements. Ryan stated that this is why he really wanted to have this committee meeting, so it wasn't himself or Peyton deciding on this topic but wanted feedback from others and council members. Ryan said that the franchise fees are usually between 3-5%. Peyton mentioned that maybe free wi-fi for all city buildings, Itch-Kep-Pe, and Pool could be a negotiation instead of a franchise fee. Peyton asked Scott if providing free wi-fi has been a part of any other franchise agreements. Scott replied he is not for sure. Dennis talked about the franchise agreement that the city has with Northwestern Energy and how that one came about not getting a fee attached to it. Ryan discussed the process of how the franchise agreement will be a contract but then it will get codified into our ordinances and the importance of</p>

Nemont Franchise
COMMITTEE MEETING

April 13, 2026, 2:00 PM @ City Hall

	<p>doing this. Peyton mentioned that there needs to be some updates to our current ordinance that talks about franchise agreements. The current wording is old and outdated. Ryan explained what he will be reviewing within the agreement and what Peyton would review. Dennis asked if we needed the definitions in our agreement like the Glasgow example has. Dennis suggested looking at the Glasgow agreement and the agreement that Nemont sent the city and put them together. Cherrie asked if the city did decide to negotiate a franchise fee what would that look like, would that fee get passed onto the city residents. Scott explained that they try to absorb the fee and not pass it onto the customer, but it depends on the frequency and expenses involved. There was some discussion on franchise fees. Tim asked what the city would use the fee for if Nemont is handling all the work, why we need to collect fees from them. Dennis said that we would want to determine what the city would use the revenue for, trails, parks, etc. Ryan stated that cities that are charging a franchise fee is probably for administrative cost and permitting fees. Dennis asked Peyton about permitting and how that would work. Peyton explained permitting will all be spelled out in the agreement. There was discussion on permitting. There was more discussion on whether the city wanted to charge a franchise fee or not. Dennis stated it would be nice to see some free internet. Cherrie agreed. Scott said he thought that would be more than 3%. After the discussion it was decided that the city would not change a franchise fee. Dennis asked how often the franchise agreements get reviewed. Scott stated it all depends. Tim asked how long a franchise agreement is good for. Scott stated that they are usually from 5 to 15 years. Tim suggested that maybe the city does the franchise agreement for 5 years and then review to see if a fee should be assed at that time. Scott expressed his concerns with a 5-year term. Scott would like to see the agreement be 10 years and then review. Ryan stated that he does not care for auto-renews and explained why. He suggested maybe one auto renewal added into the ordinance and then require a review. Scott agreed with Ryan on the auto renewal concept. Ryan explained the ordinance process and how this will play into the franchise agreement. Franchise agreement will not have to wait 60 days before it goes into effect. After all discussions it was decided that the Glasgow agreement and the agreement that was sent over from Nemont will be married together with all suggestions discussed and the draft will be emailed out to all committee members for review. After the review any changes will be made and then the agreement will be presented to the council for a vote. After the franchise agreement is approved the ordinance process will start. Dennis asked Scott when Nemont was wanting to get started. Scott replied as soon as the city is ready and the project will most likely go until the spring of 2027. Ryan stated that he will have a rough draft ready on Monday April 20th. Cherrie will send out the draft for review. Once review comes back, any changes will be made, sent for review again and the final franchise agreement will be presented to council on May 4th. Scott asked for confirmation if the final agreement is approved on May 4th Nemont would be approved to move forward. Ryan stated yes and explained how the agreement and ordinance will work.</p>
COMMENTS NOT ON THE AGENDA	None

Nemont Franchise
COMMITTEE MEETING
April 13, 2026, 2:00 PM @ City Hall

ADJOURNMENT	Meeting was over at 2:43 PM
--------------------	-----------------------------
