



Town of Ayer
1 Main Street
Ayer MA 01432
978-772-8220 ext 153

RECEIVED
JAN 18 2023

TOWN OF AYER
TOWN CLERK

Date: January 17, 2023
To: Cable Advisory Committee
From: Susan E Copeland, Ayer Town Clerk
RE: Input Regarding Importance of Public Access Television
for the Town of Ayer

My name is Susan Copeland, I'm a resident of Ayer, I am currently the Town Clerk and also a parent of 2 children in the Ayer Shirley School District. The positive impact that Public Access Television has on my professional and personal life is long, but I have scaled down to a few points I'd like to share today.

Without printed news circulations we are relying on upgrading our outreach with the electronic world. Public Access Television is our catalyst to get the information out to the public.

Recordings that range from Town Meeting, board and committee meetings, public forums, local community events and school activities is paramount to keeping everyone connected.

In the past, members of APAC have been creative in working in collaboration with my office in getting out the importance of voting and information on elections. This is also true for other departments, board and committees in helping to highlight and give insight to projects in our town.

As a parent, I know firsthand the relationships with the school district and working with elementary children on writing news reports, conducting interview of local town officials and then the editing process that follows to post a professional and informative video for the community.



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Whether it's a community, school event or sports, there is something about seeing you on television, no matter the network, that is a shot of adrenaline for the psyche.

Open Town Meeting is the truest form of local government, it may have variations over the years but it is government of and for the people, but more importantly by the people. It remains true democracy at work.

Part of our mission as public officials is working in a transparent environment and the relations with APAC and Public Access Television is key in helping us staying in contact with the community.

It would be extremely beneficial for Comcast to pick up the baton of the written media and continue to support and evolve these efforts in this market with keeping our community informed and engaged.