



Templeton Community Television

Mission & Vision Statements

Description

TCTV offers public access, educational, and government (PEG) programming, in addition to a Community Bulletin Board for local non-profit events and notices.

TCTV operates Cable Channel 8, as well as its own YouTube channel and Facebook page.

TCTV is a supporter of First Amendment rights to freedom of speech and freedom of press, encouraging respectful discourse and practicing responsible media in all its forms.

Mission

TCTV is an informational and cultural resource for the Town of Templeton and its residents, visitors, and friends.

Vision

TCTV strives to become a self-sustaining media enterprise offering video production facilities and related media resources and training for the public.

TCTV shall use its resources and facilities to nurture the creative talents of residents and students.

TCTV strives to offer scholarships and part-time positions for those seeking careers in media.

Government Coverage

TCTV offers transparent and impartial coverage of government meetings and events so Templeton residents and others may be informed about issues affecting the town.

To remain fair and impartial, TCTV does not affiliate with political groups or causes outside of its own interests.

Bringing the Community Together

TCTV acts as a bridge between public, educational, and government entities to bring the people of Templeton and the area closer together.

Cable Access and Communications Department

The Cable Access and Communications Department is the town government entity that operates and maintains TCTV and its media properties.

Funding for the department is through the Cable TV Enterprise Account, set aside to be used solely for the maintenance and operation of a cable access TV channel (TCTV) and cable TV-related matters, per the binding license agreement with the cable TV operator.

Funds paid into the account by the cable TV operator are raised via franchise fees representing 4.25 percent of the cable operator's TV revenues in Templeton. The franchise fee is paid by Templeton cable TV subscribers.

According to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Division of Telecommunications, any funds raised from cable TV subscribers and used for purposes other than operating a cable access TV station and addressing other cable TV-related matters constitutes a "selective" or "discriminatory tax" imposed upon only certain individuals, and is strongly discouraged.

Goals for FY19

- Set and enact a workable budget with adequate staffing and resources
- Work with other Community Services and Town departments
- Determine locations for operations and possible TV studio
- Establish and continue to develop partnerships with area groups and organizations

Cable TV Advisory Committee

The Cable Access and Communications department, the Town of Templeton government, and their administrative oversight should rely on an independent Cable TV Advisory Committee to serve in an advisory and/or judiciary role in settling any matters concerning the department's and the cable access channel's role, funding, and the protection of First Amendment rights to freedom of speech and press, including all media.

A Cable TV Advisory Committee may serve to make impartial judgments and/or advise the Board of Selectmen on these and other cable TV-related matters, including contractual and funding issues. Such a Committee also serves to protect the town and its government from liabilities and perceptions of bias resulting from media-related decisions. Perceptions of government bias in TCTV media properties can destroy the public trust in its local government.

Such a committee should be made up of residents of Templeton versed in the areas of media, video and broadcasting, arts, government, education, and culture. The committee is chartered to exist for up to 5 members.