

BOROUGH OF RED BANK

COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

RESOLUTION NO. 13-212

RESOLUTION SPEARHEADING PUBLIC SUPPORT TO COMPEL VERIZON TO FULFILL ITS OBLIGATIONS TO NEW JERSEY TAXPAYERS AND THE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO ESTABLISH FULL HIGH SPEED INTERNET CONNECTIVITY FOR ALL MUNICIPALITIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE

Mr. DuPont offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS the Borough of Red Bank is aware that, according to published sources as far back as 1992, Verizon executed an agreement with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities that obligated the utility to provide high speed internet connectivity throughout the entire State of New Jersey so that all New Jersey residents would have the option to purchase high speed internet service, which the Board acknowledged was a worthwhile and necessary goal that was in the interest of the State's taxpayers and was a matter of public policy; and

WHEREAS, as of July 24, 2013, Verizon has failed to uphold their obligations under that agreement; and

WHEREAS, the infrastructure to establish high-speed internet connectivity does not exist in some New Jersey municipalities for no legitimate reason, that the Borough of Red Bank is aware of, other than because the Utility wishes to avoid the expense of establishing that infrastructure in those municipalities, contrary to the established obligations of Verizon and to the public policy goals of the State and notwithstanding that neighboring municipalities to those without the infrastructure already have the infrastructure in place; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of Red Bank is aware that the Township of Woodbridge and other similar suburban communities are being unfairly denied access to high-speed internet service, which has become an economic and an educational necessity in today's world and joins the Township of Woodbridge in the effort, with the anticipated support of the State Government, to compel public utilities to fulfill their legal and policy obligations to New Jersey taxpayers, and the Township of Woodbridge has pledged to forward similar complaints from other municipalities to utilities and to the Administration in order to ensure that all voices are heard on this matter; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Red Bank that:

1. Verizon should immediately fulfill its obligation to provide the infrastructure for high-speed internet connectivity to the Township of Woodbridge and all other similar suburban communities throughout the State of New Jersey, as a matter of Verizon's stated agreement to do so with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, which dates back a matter of decades, and as a matter of sound public policy;
2. A copy of this Resolution shall be fully available to the public and to other suburban municipalities who can benefit from assistance in compelling Verizon to fulfill its obligations and to help New Jersey achieve its long-standing goal of full internet connectivity for all New Jersey municipalities.
3. A copy of this Resolution shall be delivered to the Township of Woodbridge and to the Office of the Governor in an effort to request the Christie Administration's assistance in achieving a resolution in this matter.

Seconded by Ms. Lee and adopted on roll call by the following vote:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ms. Lewis	(x)	()	()	()
Mr. Zipprich	(x)	()	()	()
Mr. DuPont	(x)	()	()	()
Ms. Horgan	(x)	()	()	()
Ms. Lee	(x)	()	()	()
Mr. Murphy	(x)	()	()	()

Dated: September 11, 2013