

December 22, 2018

I am writing at this late date regarding the Burlington Telecom sale issue because, like too many Burlington residents and BT customers, I have not been giving this issue the attention I should have. I simply did not understand the seriousness of the issues. And, as is the case for most residents, there are too many distractions; something I suspect the City counted on.

Prior to becoming a BT customer some years, I was not connected to cable television - the big corporate options were too unappealing. I couldn't bare dealing with the horrible service or the outrageous costs.

BT offers fabulous service at costs I can afford.

\$16.9 million was wrongfully taken from Burlington taxpayers. Even while the PUC stated that Intervenor may raise the \$16.9 million from the sale, the City denies that we are owed anything. Vermont law too, states that: Taxpayers are owed \$16.9 million.

Every other entity that has an investment in BT is being repaid - except taxpayers. The City is willing to just simply GIVE away \$16.9 taxpayer dollars to Schurz Communications. It's an outrage.

Just as Burlington Electric is a fantastic gem for City residents, BT is another gem with the same potential. Residents have a \$16.9 million dollar investment in it. It is unimaginable that the PUC would allow it to be stolen from us to one day be sold to just another greedy telecommunications conglomerate . It would be an unbearable future for our great BT.

Amazingly, the City owes attorney fees for this fiasco to the tune of \$323,604, which also is being stolen from tax dollars to take BT from us. This, while our attorney is begging for \$20-30 donations.

Ethics anyone?

Please do not allow this criminal activity to continue.

Sincerely,

Marianne Ward
Burlington, VT