

1. Are current subscribers assured of continued service? If so, would an active, public spirited effort to greatly increase subscriptions make Burlington Telecom more attractive to an investor or in some other way more viable? It has bothered me that all the public attention has created an environment that completely undermines building or even sustaining the subscriber base.
2. Why has not the Mayor been more forceful in reassuring current and potential BT subscribers that they will not suffer an interruption in their service? Without this message being clearly enunciated, his administration has allowed to thrive among our citizenry the portrayal of BT as a pariah because its future is in doubt. This vicious cycle may well turn into a self-fulfilling prophecy if this impression is allowed to continue unchallenged, and BT's subscriber revenues remain flat or drop off.
3. How are continuing BT losses being covered and have city councilors and administration members assumed any personal liability for them?
4. As a subscriber to Burlington Telecom i am very pleased with the service that this entity offers yet i am curious just how this service can continue without an apparent business plan since the existing model has failed to attract a critical mass of subscribers and continues to operate in the red with the financial consequences potentially becoming a lasting liability to the taxpayers of Burlington. What are your solutions to this problem? And the lack of transparency that continues to exist as a pervasive culture in the Mayor's administration should be of real concern to us Burlington residents.
5. It surprised me that BT has only 5000 subscribers. How is that possible? The marketing department doesn't work well? I have used BT for my internet access and phone landline and this is the best phone company I ever dealt with. I had pretty bad experiences with AT&T and Verizon and I hear bad stories about Fairpoint. I call lots of long distance and with BT it is cheap and I never had a billing problem , to the point that I even stopped checking my bills. Plus I believe that BT would never let somebody like George Bush illegally listen to my conversation, like it happened in 2003 and 2004.
6. Is Burlington Telecom paying property taxes and equipment taxes on their holdings within [the] city?
7. I'm wondering if there might be a way to offer an incentive to landlords providing Telecom services to their tenants. With so much of Burlington being rental apartments often times the tenants are lured to comcast by special promotion deals that make it appear to be a better deal. If the landlord was able to provide the service for its tenants, BT could offer discounted rates when signing up multiple apartments at a time. Allowing landlords to include that amount in rent while still saving their tenants money and bolstering BT's subscription services. If BT cant offer these group rates than maybe the city could offer tax incentives allowing for a percentage to be taken off of rental property taxes when a long term commitment is signed to BT. The increased revenue for BT can help make up the difference in property tax while still helping to cover BT's expenses.

8. Besides audits, investigations and Blue Ribbon Committees, what ideas does the City Council have to interconnect city departments - and sequentially businesses and citizens - with broadband?
9. For the city lawyers: As a city are we off the financial hook to citiCap once the equipment is returned as the Mayor says.
10. There's been a fair amount of conflicting statements recently about whether or not the Citi lease provides a right to recover any deficiency on the BT lease from the City of Burlington, and if so, if the City is insured for the loss. Is the BT / Citi lease available for public review? Are the City and its taxpayers liable to guarantee the repayment the Citi lease by BT? If no, why not?
11. Since the default of the City of Burlington, the value of the BT equipment that Citi now owns is in the cable that is buried and able to be used to distribute programming and broadband service. Why would Citi not confiscate the buried lines and resell them to another cable company? What will BT do if they do sell the buried lines to another company? What will happen to BT if Citi does not allow access to the buried cable lines that they now own?
12. Mayor Kiss You have indicated on a number of occasions that the City's obligation to CitiCapital is limited to the costs of returning or replacing the equipment provided to the City by CitiCapital, and that the City is not at risk for any default or deficiency over and above the equipment costs. What is the basis of that point of view? Has the City or its attorneys been advised by CitiCapital that it is not seeking any deficiency from the City?
13. Does Citi Leasing have any assignment rights to BT property or leaseholds?

14. Is the City covered by insurance which provide[s] indemnity if we have to repay the Citi lease deficiency? If so, what are the terms of coverage? Is the insurance policy which may provide coverage available for public review?
15. Why shouldn't a claim be filed with the city's insurer for reimbursement of losses caused by the CAO's intentional disregard of his legal obligations or, at least, why shouldn't a neutral legal expert advise as to whether such a claim should be filed?
16. What doesn't the city file an insurance claim to recover the misappropriated \$17 million?
17. Can the city take Mayor Kiss and Mr. Leopold to court to try to recover funds illegally diverted from city funds to BT?

18. Question is how much jail time for the City Att. and will he be disbarred for his actions - his inaction and silence that caused the whole BT mess!? How much jail time for the CAO and will the law suits claim any of his assets to 17mm owed the City? Will the dishonorable mayor resign in disgrace or do we all have to wait until 2012 March? Will he or his family pay the City back for all the law fees & interest expenses from the Moody downgrade HE caused this once beautiful City?
19. I just recently read in the burlington free press that the city council does not have the power to remove a mayor. Is this true and if it is, who does have the power to do this.
Thank you

20. Your council's efforts to take the small business funds for ALL of Burlington's entrepreneurial investment needs, and invest it into a corporate destabilization project, known as Burlington Telecom, has wasted a fund used for many needs, and has now caused the City to refuse to assist ANY businesses in securing start-up funding for an undisclosed time period, even though your website is still claiming to assist these newer businesses in founding themselves within a stable and progressive "community" to work within. How does the City Council plan to recompense those who have relocated here to establish a thriving business model, when it is not even considered as part of your City's agenda, because of the lack of public use funding for small business start-up, due to this embezzlement? I also wish to ask how this is not seen as an Issue of both Embezzlement of Public funds, or of violations of the RICO statutes protecting the public against Fraud and Racketeering from public enterprises? Basically, why does the City's Council feel there hasn't been any deception of the public, with so many reports being issued about the embezzlement, clearly showing that these forums are being used as a cover for the acts being perpetrated? Why does the City Council feel that they can loan the money behind the backs of the entire Board, and then to change the Election Standards, to clearly benefit the man who had done this secretly, and to continue to ignore this fact, as a part of a double standard being used to deceive us? I own a small business that usually employ's up to 10-12 people throughout the year, and now we are in limbo because we cannot afford the basic costs of operations and maintenance of our service, nor can we properly expand our fabrication shop to handle the demand of the business we have generated the interest for. If we are not respected for our work and commitment to low-cost environmental alternatives, and placed upon a list of businesses that [end].
21. The city has paid the McNeil law firm nearly 200 thousand dollars for "compliance" of the Burlington Telecom entity according to mayor Kiss's public testimony the entity has never been compliant with its CPG or the PSB requirements are we paying for the administrations mismanagement of the entity, what are the compliance issues that are being dealt with by the McNeil firm?
22. Is the City of Burlington actively seeking buyers or partners for BT, or simply relying on the two parties we have been hearing about?
23. I have a simple math question. We know that BT owes the general fund \$17,000,000. Based upon previous statements by mayor Kiss all of the BT equipment could be replaced for as little as \$6,000,000. This totals \$23,000,000. Mayor Kiss also stated in negotiations with Citi Financial that BT can currently pay \$40,000 a month in lease payments. Paying \$40,000 a month on a \$23,000,000 debt it would take 47 years and 11 months to repay just the principal and no interest or profit. Given the simple math involved is it realistic to think that BT can find an investor to salvage the system? Do you honestly believe that someone will put up \$23 million when it will take 48 years just to pay back the original funding?

24. It would seem that the CAO must have been aware that writing checks to Burlington Telecom without benefit of surety debiting the cash from the pooled account and then moving that debit to the asset side of the City's balance sheet was a ponzi scam in effect poisoning the city's financial position. Was the CAO aware of this problem writing checks with no surety or collateral and accounting for the bad loan to a bankrupt company and then declaring the fiction an asset or is he completely incompetent to hold the position of treasurer?
25. For the Mayor: Why did you continue to take money from the general fund when you knew it could not be paid back and violate your fiduciary responsibility to the people of Burlington.
26. The loans that Jonathan Leopold used to prop up Burlington Telecom were made without any collateral is that correct?

27. For the Mayor: Why did you not come out and tell the people of Burlington that BT was in trouble and required public assistance and advise right from the start.
28. If the administration was aware that the Telecom entity would be bankrupt to the tune of 11.2 million by the end of March in 2008 Why wasn't this problem brought to the voters in 2008?
29. For the council: Why when you were made aware of the financial condition of BT in Dec 2007 did you take no further direct action to monitor and make public the situation before it became public knowledge in Sept or Oct 2009.
30. For the council: What action(s) have you taken to assure another BT won't happen again.

31. My question, in two parts, relates to forward-looking increased costs for borrowing due to the relatively recent BT-related credit rating downgrades for borrowing by - the City of Burlington, - BED, and - the airport. First, just for borrowing currently on the books, what is the most reasonable estimate available, or range of reasonable estimates available, for increased debt service costs for each of the above entities due to those credit downgrades? Then, for all foreseeable borrowing anticipated but not yet realized, what is the most reasonable estimate available, or range of reasonable estimates available, for increased debt service costs such anticipated borrowings for each of the above entities due to those credit downgrades? The reason for this question is to understand added costs, beyond the much-referenced "\$17,000,000" related to the cash-flow performance of BT, in order to gain an appreciation of the true magnitude of the financial burden facing Burlington's citizens, and especially, taxpayers. Note that this request is for "most reasonable estimates available", which logic would dictate must have already been calculated. Please answer the question directly, without needless analytical digression or obfuscation. Thank you.

32. What puzzles me now, today, is why the unwind process has been so prolonged. The credit worthiness of Burlington is suffering, and borrowing money for the city has become more expensive. Wouldn't it be best to step up to the plate and write off the loss sooner, rather than later? I don't know if this means selling BT to a private consortium, or

raising property taxes to cover the "loan", but it seems to me that the best outcome for Kiss and the progressives involves rapid and decisive actions, which have been strangely lacking.

33. Dear Bob, I find it tragic that you continue to deny any wrong doing in the BT debacle. Do you think you'll ever come around?
34. Not a question but a comment. There is growing evidence that the costs to residents for services is consistently higher when the services are private, rather than publicly owned utilities. This has been best documented for water: <http://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/factsheet/economic-failures-of-private-water-systems/> but applies to many other areas as well, a prime example is that shortly after privatizing their parking Chicago now has the highest parking rates in the country. The explanation for this is clear. Private companies are in the business of maximizing profits, as they should be. Competition is what keeps prices low. The problem is, there is effectively little or no competition for utilities. Since private companies do not have the oversight that public utilities it is much easier for them to raise rates. Had Chicago been allowed to raise rates as much as their new contractor has it would have been far more profitable than selling the franchise, but the voters rightly would have rebelled. Private companies do not have that problem. I strongly urge you to develop some method for keeping Burlington Telecom a public utility. In the event that it is sold to a private utility, I will expect rates to increase dramatically, and in all likelihood I will cancel my cable and discard my television.
35. We have this cable service. We had comcast before that.to get same channels as with comcast we were forced to get a sationary phone also.(which is not used because everyone has a cell phone today).The hand remotes they gave us were used dirty with sticky stuff all over it and dead batteries. Who knows where these remotes could have benn use for before we get them.The BT service is always Tv only has the picture and sound cuts out every once and awhile.The same channels and computer service from Comcast was around \$50.00 cheaper than BT is.Comcast tv boxes are so much more convenient and will at least show you the time of day also. Oh when we did hook the phone up people started calling us for who ever had the number they gave us for the phone, so we unhooked the phone.We ask BT who was this number and they had no idea? BT's 6 boxes to run my apartment BT service all draw electric power also , more expensive then Comcast for sure in the long run. Who in their right mind would want something that so much more money. and dirty used equiment.This BT system has to be a lot cheaper than Comcast to get a large customer base.