

**ORDINANCE NO. 4430**

**AN ORDINANCE GRANTING WILDFLOWER TELECOMMUNICATIONS, LLC, D/B/A IDEATEK, A CONTRACT FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM IN THE CITY OF LIBERAL, KANSAS AND PRESCRIBING THE TERMS OF SAID CONTRACT FRANCHISE.**

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF LIBERAL:**

**SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.**

For the purposes of this Ordinance the following words and phrases shall have the meaning given herein. When not inconsistent within the contract, words used in the present tense include the future tense and words in the single number include the plural number. The word “shall” is always

-8---s mandatory, and not merely directory.

- a. “City” – means the City of Liberal, Kansas.
- b. “Contract franchise” – means this Ordinance granting the right, privilege and franchise to Grantee to provide Telecommunications services within the City.
- c. “Facilities” – means telephone and telecommunications lines, conduits, manholes, ducts, wires, cables, pipes, poles, towers, vaults, appliances, optic fiber, and all equipment used to provide Telecommunications services.
- d. “Grantee” – means Wildflower Telecommunications, LLC, a Telecommunications service providing service and/or operating Facilities within the City. References to Grantee shall also include as appropriate any and all successors and assigns.
- e. “Gross Receipts” – shall mean only those receipts collected from within the corporate boundaries of the City and which are derived from the following: (1) Recurring Local exchange services for business and residence which includes basic exchange service, touch tone, optional calling features and measured local calls; (2) Recurring local exchange Access line services for pay phone lines provided by Grantee to all pay phone service providers; (3) Local directory assistance revenue; (4) Line status verification/busy interrupt revenue; (5) Local operator assistance revenue; (6) Nonrecurring Local exchange service revenue

which shall include customer service for installation of lines, reconnection of service and change for duplicate bills; and (7) Leasing of dark fiber to third parties; and, (8) Broadband, which includes data services. All other revenues, including, but not limited to, revenues from extended area service, the sale or lease of unbundled network elements, nonregulated services, carrier and end user access, long distance, wireless telecommunications services, and all other services not wholly local in nature are excluded from Gross Receipts. Gross Receipts shall be reduced by bad debt expenses. Uncollectible and late charges shall not be include within Gross Receipts.

- f. “Local exchange service” – means local switched telecommunications service within any local exchange service area approved by the state corporation commission, regardless of the medium by which the local telecommunications service is provided. The term Local exchange service shall not include wireless communication services.
- g. “Public right-of-way” – means only the area of real property in which the City has dedicated or acquired right-of-way interest in the real property. It shall include the area on, below or above the present and future streets, alleys, avenues, roads, highways, parkways or boulevards dedicated or acquired as right-of-way. The term does not include airwaves above a right-of-way with regard to wireless telecommunications or other non-wire telecommunications or broadcast service, easements obtained by utilities or private easements in platted subdivisions or tracts.
- h. “Telecommunications services” – means providing the means of transmission, between or among points specified by the user, or information of the user’s choosing, without change in the form of content of the information as sent and received. This includes provision of a service of telephone messages, or two-way video or data messages.

## **SECTION 2. GRANT OR CONTRACT FRANCHISE.**

- a. Pursuant to K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 12-2001 there is hereby granted to Grantee this nonexclusive Contract franchise to construct, maintain, extend and operate its Facilities along, across, upon or under any Public right-of-way for the purpose of supplying any Telecommunications services.
- b. The grant of this Contract franchise by the City shall not convey title, equitable or legal, in the Public right-of-way, and shall give only the right to occupy the Public

right-of-way, for the purposes and for the period stated in this Contract franchise. This Contract franchise does not:

- (1) Grant the right to use Facilities or any other property, telecommunications related or otherwise, owned or controlled by the City or third-party, without the consent of such party;
  - (2) Grant the authority to contract, maintain or operate any Facility or related appurtenance on property owned by the City outside of the Public right-of-way, specifically including, but not limited to, parkland property, City Hall property or public works facility property; or
  - (3) Excuse Grantee from obtaining appropriate access or attachment agreements before locating its Facilities on the Facilities owned or controlled by the City or a third-party.
- c. As a condition of this grant, Grantee is required to obtain and is responsible for any necessary permit, license, certification, grant, registration or any other authorization required by any appropriate governmental entity, including but not limited to, the City, the FCC or the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC). Grantee shall also comply with all applicable laws, statues and/or city regulations (including, but not limited to those relating to the construction and use of the Public right-of-way or other public property).
- d. Grantee shall not provide any additional services for which a franchise is required by the City without first obtaining a separate franchise from the City or amending this Contract franchise, and Grantee shall not knowingly allow the use of its Facilities by any third party in violation of any federal, state or local law. In particular, this Contract franchise does not provide Grantee the right to provide cable services as a cable operator (as defined by U.S.C. § 522 (5)) within the City, Grantee agrees that this franchise does not permit it to operate an open video system without payment of fees permitted by 47 U.S.C. § 573 ©(2)(B) and without complying with FCC regulations promulgated pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 573.
- e. This authority to occupy the Public right-of-way shall be granted in a competitively neutral and nondiscriminatory basis and not in conflict with state or federal law.

### **SECTION 3. USE OF PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY.**

- a. Pursuant to K.S.A 17-1902, *et. seq.*, and amendments thereto, and subject to the provisions of this Contract franchise, Grantee shall have the right to construct, maintain and operate its Facilities along, across, upon and under the Public right-of-way, which right is subject to the City's approval of the plan submitted by Grantee as to the easement requested and the means in which services will be provided within the corporate City limits. Such Facilities shall be so constructed and maintained as not to obstruct or hinder the usual travel or public safety on such public ways or obstruct the legal use of such public ways by other utilities.
- b. Grantee's use of the Public right-of-way shall always be subject and subordinate to the reasonable public health, safety and welfare requirements and regulations of the City and any applicable Federal and State laws. The City may exercise its home rule powers in its administration and regulation related to the management of the Public right-of-way; provided that any such exercise must be competitively neutral and may not be unreasonable or discriminatory. Grantee shall be subject to all applicable laws and statues, and/or rules, regulations, policies, resolutions and ordinances adopted by the City, relating to the construction and use of the Public right-of way.
- c. Grantee shall participate in the Kansas One Call utility location program.

#### **SECTION 4. COMPENSATION TO THE CITY.**

- a. In consideration of this Contract franchise, Grantee agrees to remit to the City a franchise fee of 5% of Gross Receipts. To determine the franchise fee, Grantee shall calculate the Gross Receipts and multiply such receipts by 5%. Thereafter subject to subsection (b) hereafter, compensation for each calendar year of the remaining term of this Contract franchise shall continue to be based on a sum equal to 5% of Gross Receipts.
- b. Grantee shall pay on a monthly basis without requirement for invoice or reminder from the City, and within 45 days of the last day of the month for which the payment applies franchise fees due and payable to the City. If any franchise fee, or any portion thereof, is not postmarked or delivered on or before the due date, interest thereon shall accrue from the due date until received, at the applicable statutory interest rate.
- c. Upon written request by the City, but no more than once per quarter, Grantee shall submit to the city a certified statement showing the manner in which the franchise fee was calculated.

- d. No acceptance by the City of any franchise fee shall be construed as an accord that the amount paid is in fact the correct amount, nor shall acceptance of any franchise fee payment be construed as a release of any claim of the City. Any dispute concerning the amount due under this Section shall be resolved in the manner set forth in K.S.A. 12-2001, and amendments thereto.
- e. The City shall have the right to examine, upon sixty (60) days (or such other time as agreed by the parties) prior written notice to Grantee no more often than once per calendar year, those records necessary to verify the correctness of the franchise fees paid by Grantee.
- f. Upon acceptance of this Contract franchise, Grantee shall pay to the City a one-time application fee of Twenty-Five Hundred and no/100ths dollars (\$2500.00). The parties agree that such fee reimburses the city for its reasonable, actual and verifiable costs of reviewing and approving this Contract franchise.
- g. The franchise fee required herein shall be in addition to, not in lieu of, all taxes, charges, assessments, licenses, fees and impositions otherwise applicable that are or may be imposed by the City under K.S.A. 12-2001 and 17-1902, and amendments thereto. The franchise fee is compensation for use of the Public right-of-way and shall in no way be deemed a tax of any kind.

## **SECTION 5. INDEMNITY AND HOLD HARMLESS.**

It shall be the responsibility of Grantee to take adequate measure to protect and defend its Facilities in the Public right-of-way from harm or damage. If Grantee fails to accurately or timely locate Facilities when requested, in accordance with the Kansas Underground Utility Damage Prevention Act, K.S.A. 66-1801 et seq., it has no claim for costs or damages against the City and its authorized contractors unless such parties are responsible for the harm or damage caused by their negligence or intentional conduct. The City and its authorized contractors shall be responsible to take reasonable precautionary measures including calling for utility locations and observing marker posts when working near Grantee's Facilities.

Grantee shall indemnify and hold the City and its officers and employees harmless against any and all claims, lawsuits, judgments, costs, liens, losses, expenses, fees (including reasonable attorney fees and costs of defense), proceedings, actions, demands, causes of action, liability and suits of any kind and nature, including personal or bodily injury (including death), property damage or other harm for which recovery of

damages is sought, to the extent that it is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be caused by the negligence of Grantee, any agent, officer, director, representative, employee, affiliate or subcontractor of Grantee, or its respective officers, agents, employees, directors or representatives, while installing, repairing or maintaining Facilities in the Public right-of-way.

The indemnity provided by this subsection does not apply to any liability resulting from the negligence of the City, its officers, employees, contractors or subcontractors. If Grantee and the City are found jointly liable by a court of competent jurisdiction, liability shall be apportioned comparatively in accordance with the laws of this state without, however, waiving any governmental immunity available to the City under state law and without waiving any defenses of the parties under state or federal law. This section is solely for the benefit of the City and Grantee does not create or grant any rights, contractual or otherwise, to any other person or entity.

Grantee or City shall promptly advise the other in writing of any known claim or demand against Grantee or the City related to or arising out of Grantee's activities in the Public right-of-way.

## **SECTION 6. INSURANCE REQUIREMENT AND PERFORMANCE BOND.**

- a. During the term of this Contract franchise, Grantee shall obtain and maintain insurance coverage at its sole expense, with financially reputable insurers that are licensed to do business in the State of Kansas. Grantee shall provide not less than the following insurance:
  - (1) Workers' compensation is provided for under any worker's compensation or similar law in the jurisdiction where any work performed with any employers' liability limit equal to the amount required by law.
  - (2) Commercial general liability, including coverage for contractual liability and products completed operations liability on an occurrence basis and not a claims made basis, with a limit of not less than Two Million Dollars (2,000,000.00) combined single limit per occurrence for bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage liability. The city shall be included as an additional insured with respect to liability arising from Grantee's operations under this Contract franchise.
- b. Grantee shall, as a material condition of this Contract franchise, prior to the commencement of any work and prior to any renewal thereof, deliver to the City

a certificate of insurance or evidence of self-insurance, satisfactory in form and content to the City, evidencing that the above insurance is in force. Grantee shall timely notify the City if the insurance is cancelled or materially changed with respect to areas and entities covered. Grantee shall make available to the City on request the policy declarations page and a certified copy of the policy in effect, so that limitation and exclusions can be evaluated for appropriateness of overall coverage.

- c. Grantee shall, as a material condition of this Contract franchise, prior to the commencement of any work and prior to any renewal thereof, deliver to the City a performance bond acceptable to the City to ensure the appropriate and timely performance in the construction and maintenance of Facilities located in the Public right-of-way. The required performance bond must be good and sufficient sureties, issued by a surety company and authorized to transact business in the State of Kansas.

## **SECTION 7. REVOCATION AND TERMINATION.**

In case of failure on the part of Grantee to comply with any of the provisions of this Contract franchise, or if Grantee should do or cause to be done any act or thing prohibited by or in violation of the terms of this Contract franchise, Grantee shall forfeit all rights, privileges and franchise granted herein, and all such rights, privileges and franchise hereunder shall cease, terminate and become null and void, and this Contract franchise shall be deemed revoked or terminated, provided that said revocation or termination, shall not take effect until the City has completed the following procedures: Before the City proceeds to revoke and terminate this Contract franchise, it shall first serve a written notice upon Grantee, setting forth in detail the neglect or failure complained of, and Grantee shall have thirty (30) days thereafter in which to comply with the conditions and requirements of this Contract franchise. If at the end of such thirty (30) day period the City deems that the conditions have not been complied with, the City shall take action to revoke and terminate this Contract franchise by an affirmative vote of the City Commission present at the meeting and voting setting out the grounds upon which this Contract franchise is to be revoked and at the meeting and voting, setting out the grounds upon which this Contract franchise is to be revoked and terminated; provided, to afford Grantee due process, Grantee shall first be provided reasonable notice of the date, time and location of the City Commission's consideration, and shall have the right to address the City Commission regarding such matter. Nothing herein shall prevent the City from invoking any other remedy that may otherwise exist at law. Upon any determination by the City Commission to revoke and terminate this Contract franchise, Grantee shall have thirty (30) days to appeal such decision to the

District Court of Seward County, Kansas. The Contract franchise shall be deemed revoked and terminated at the end of this thirty (30) day period, unless Grantee has instituted such an appeal. If Grantee does timely institute such an appeal, such revocation and termination shall remain pending and subject to the court's final judgment. Provided, however, that the failure of Grantee to comply with any of the provisions of this Contract franchise or the doing or causing to be done by Grantee of anything prohibited by or in violation of the terms of this Contract franchise shall not be a ground for the revocation of termination thereof when such act or omission on the part of Grantee is due to any cause or delay beyond the control of Grantee or to bona fide legal proceedings.

#### **SECTION 8. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS.**

- a. The City specifically reserves its right and authority, if any, as a public entity with responsible towards its citizens, to participate to the full extent allowed by law in proceedings concerning Grantee's rates and services to ensure the rendering of efficient Telecommunication service and any other services at reasonable rates, and the maintenance of Grantee's property in good repair.
- b. In granting its consent hereunder, the City does not in any manner waive its regulatory or other rights and powers under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Kansas as the same may be amended, its Home Rule powers and other authority established pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Kansas, nor any of its rights and powers under or by virtue of present or future ordinances of the City.
- c. In entering into this Contract franchise, neither the City's nor Grantee's present or future legal rights, positions, claims, assertions or arguments before any administrative agency or court of law are in any way prejudiced or waived, By entering into this Contract franchise, neither the City nor Grantee waive any rights, but instead expressly reserve any and all rights, remedies, and arguments the City or Grantee may have at law or equity, without limitation, to argue, assert, and/or take any position as to the legality or appropriateness of any present or future laws, non-franchise ordinances and/or rulings.

#### **SECTION 9. FAILURE TO ENFORCE.**

The failure to either the City or the Grantee to insist in any one or more instances upon the strict performances of nay one or more of the terms of provisions of this Contract franchise shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment for the future of any such



terms of provision, and the same shall continue in force and effect. No waiver or relinquishment shall be deemed to have been made by the City or the Grantee unless said waiver or relinquishment is in writing and signed by both the City and the Grantee.

#### **SECTION 10. TERM AND TERMINATION DATE.**

- a. This Contract franchise shall be effective for a term beginning on the effective date of this Contract franchise and ending on January 1, 2019. Thereafter, this Contract franchise will automatically renew for up to three additional five (5) year terms, unless either party notifies the other party of its intent to terminate the contract franchise at least ninety (90) days before the termination of the current term. The additional term shall be deemed a continuation of this Contract franchise and not as a new franchise or amendment.
- b. Upon written request of the City or Grantee, this Contract franchise shall be renegotiated at any time in accordance with the requirements of state law upon any of the following events: changes in federal, state, or local laws, regulations, or orders that materially affect any rights or obligations of either the City or Grantee, including but not limited to the scope of the Contract franchise granted to Grantee or the compensation to be received by the City hereunder.
- c. If any clause, sentence, or provision of K.S.A. 12-2001, and amendments thereto, shall be held to be invalid by a court or administrative agency of competent jurisdiction, provided such order is not stayed, either the City or Grantee may elect to terminate the entire Contract franchise. In the event of such invalidity, if Grantee is required by law to enter into a Contract franchise with the City, the parties agree to act in good faith in promptly negotiating a new Contract franchise.
- d. Amendments under this Section, if any, shall be made by contract franchise ordinance as prescribed by statute. This Contract franchise shall remain in effect according to its terms, pending completion of any review or renegotiation provided by this section.
- e. In the event the parties are actively negotiating in good faith a new contract franchise ordinance or any amendment to this Contract franchise upon the termination date of this Contract franchise, the parties by written mutual agreement may extend the termination date of this Contract franchise to allow for further negotiations. Such extension period shall be deemed a continuation of

this Contract franchise and not as a new contract franchise ordinance or amendment.

**SECTION 11. POINT OF CONTACT AND NOTICES.**

Grantee shall at all times maintain with the City a local point of contact who shall be available at all times to act on behalf of Grantee in the event of an emergency. Grantee shall provide the City with said local contract’s name, address, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Emergency notice by Grantee to the City may be made by telephone to the City Manager or the Public Works Director. All other notices between the parties shall be in writing and shall be made by personal delivery, depositing such notice in the U.S. Mail, Certified Mail, return receipt requested, or by facsimile. Any notice served by U.S. Mail or Certified Mail, return receipt requested, shall be deemed delivered five (5) calendar days after the date of such deposit in the U.S. Mail unless otherwise provided. Any notice given by facsimile is deemed received by the next business day. “Business day” for purposes of this section shall mean Monday through Friday, City and/or Grantee observed holidays excepted.

The City:

Grantee:

The City of Liberal  
324 N. Kansas Avenue  
Liberal, KS 67901  
Attn: City Manager  
(620) 626-2201

Wildflower Telecommunications, LLC  
102 N. Main  
Buhler, KS 67522  
Attn: Daniel Friesen  
(620) 543-2580

or to replacement addresses that may be later designated in writing.

**SECTION 12. TRANSFER AND ASSIGNMENT.**

This Contract franchise is granted solely to the Grantee and shall not be transferred or assigned without prior written approval of the City. With regard to any transfer or assignment made to a wholly owned parent or subsidiary of Grantee or between wholly owned subsidiaries of Grantee or Grantee’s wholly-owned parent, or to an entity with which Grantee is under common ownership or control (individually and collectively “affiliated entities”), the City shall not unreasonably withhold the required written approval. As a condition of this Contract franchise, Grantee agrees and affirms that no transfer or assignment to an affiliated entity will serve to deprive the City of any franchise fee to which it was originally entitled or reduce the amount of the same. Should any such transfer or assignment result in a reduction of the amount of any

franchise fee previously received by the City, the City may withhold its approval of said transfer or assignment. In the event of any transfer or assignment of either this Contract franchise or Grantee's business or assets, Grantee shall: timely notify the City of the .successor entity; provide a point of contract for the successor entity; and advise the City of the effective date of the transfer or assignment.

Additionally, Grantee's obligation under this contract franchise with regard to indemnity, bonding and insurance shall continue until the transferee or assignee has taken the appropriate measures necessary to assume and replace the same, the intent being that there shall be no lapse in any coverage as a result of the transfer or assignment.

### **SECTION 13. CONFIDENTIALITY.**

Information provided to the City under K.S.A. 12-2001 shall be governed with regard to confidentiality procedures in compliance with K.S.A. 45-215 and 66-1220a et seq., and amendments thereto. Grantee agrees to indemnify and hold the City harmless from any and all penalties or costs, including attorney's fees, arising from the actions of Grantee, or of the City at the written request of Grantee, in seeking to safeguard the confidentiality of information provided by Grantee to the City under this Contract franchise.

### **SECTION 14. ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS.**

Grantee shall have sixty (60) days after the final passage and approval of this Contract franchise to file with the City Clerk its acceptance in writing of the provisions, terms and conditions of this Contract franchise, which acceptance shall be duly acknowledged before some officer authorized by law to administer oaths; and when so accepted, this Contract franchise and acceptance shall constitute a contract between the City and Grantee subject to the provisions of the laws of the State of Kansas, and shall be deemed effective on the later of the date Grantee files acceptance with the City or publication of this Contract franchise in accordance with Statute (the "Effective Date").

### **SECTION 15. PAYMENT OF PUBLICATION COSTS.**

In accordance with Kansas Statute, Grantee shall be responsible for payment of all costs and expense of publishing this Contract franchise, and any amendments thereof.

**SECTION 16. SEVERABILITY.**

If any clause, sentence, or section of this Contract franchise, or any portion thereof, shall be held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remainder, as a whole or any part thereof other than the part declared invalid; provided, however, the City or Grantee may elect to declare the entire Contract franchise is invalidated if the portion declared invalid is, in the judgment of the City or Grantee, and essential part of the contract franchise.

**SECTION 17. FORCE MAJEURE.**

Each and every provision hereof shall be reasonably subject to acts of God, fires, strikes, riots, floods, war and other disasters beyond Grantee's or the City's control.

PASSED by the Governing Body of the City of Liberal this 12th day of August, 2014.

APPROVED by the Mayor this 12th day of August, 2014.

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Joe Denoyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Debra S. Giskie, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Shirla McQueen, City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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C. Edward Watson  
Attorney for Wildflower Telecommunications, LLC  
d/b/a IdeaTek