

**VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS
RESOLUTION 2020-47**

**COMMITTING TO PROVISION OF MUNICIPAL BROADBAND
AS A MEANS OF FACILITATING ACCESS FOR BUSINESSES, RESIDENTS AND
VISITORS IN THE VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS**

WHEREAS, the Village of Yellow Springs is able to leverage ownership of its electrical distribution system coupled with an existing data center in town and is poised to build out its fiber network when appropriate financial and technical solutions are identified; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Yellow Springs, as a municipal entity, owns and operates telecommunications facilities within the Village that provide broadband internet access for public purposes and public facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Yellow Springs recognizes the importance of positioning gigabit-level Internet to ensure equity, inclusion & access, attract new businesses & create jobs, improve health care & education and connect residents to new opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Yellow Springs values net neutrality as essential to the American economy and our very way of life. An open and affordable Internet launches new ideas, ignites new political movements and brings communities closer together; as President Obama highlighted, “it is been one of the most significant democratizing influences the world has ever known”; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Yellow Springs has partnered with residents, political subdivisions and organizations, such as Springs-Net, MVECA, YS Schools, YS Community Foundation and Greene County, to improve the infrastructure needed to provide third party access to broadband services, including fiber for the downtown business district; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Yellow Springs intends to eventually extend access to the entire community as a public municipal utility with wireless, active ethernet, shared gigabit, and other services for wholesale and retail provision to commercial and residential customers, as a subset of its electric utility, operated by the Village of Yellow Springs Public Works, subject to reasonable restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Yellow Springs has installed and implemented a fixed wireless network initiative with various stakeholders – schools, businesses, government – that provides high speed free WiFi to downtown Yellow Springs, providing equitable access to the Internet, promoting economic development and enhancing quality of life. This project creates a platform and the backbone for a more extensive municipal fiber infrastructure to generate revenues for the Village by providing Internet as a utility and to reduce expenses via operational efficiencies,

**NOW, THEREFORE, COUNCIL FOR THE VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS,
OHIO HEREBY RESOLVES THAT:**

Section 1. The Village of Yellow Springs commits to expand its delivery of broadband Internet access to the public by facilitating access to businesses, residents and visitors in the Village to promote the public health, safety and welfare of the Village of Yellow Springs.

Brian Housh, Council President

Passed: 11-16-2020

Attest: _____
Judy Kintner, Clerk of Council

ROLL CALL

Brian Housh _Y_ Marianne MacQueen _Y_ Kevin Stokes _Y_

Lisa Kreeger _Y_ Laura Curliss _Y_