

ORDINANCE NO. 4308

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Ordinance No. 2165, as amended, to grant a one-year extension of franchise rights to Verizon Virginia, Inc., formerly known as Bell Atlantic-Virginia, Incorporated, formerly known as the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Virginia.

WHEREAS, on March 22, 1977, the city council enacted Ordinance No. 2165 which granted a franchise to the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Virginia and its successors and assigns for the purpose of providing a telephone and telegraph service and system within the city; and

WHEREAS, Section 17 of Ordinance No. 2165 provided that the franchise rights and privileges provided by the ordinance were to continue for a term of 20 years, from May 1, 1977 until May 1, 1997; and

WHEREAS, in order to await the resolution of issues arising from the enactment of certain state and federal legislation affecting the rights of municipalities and telecommunications providers, the city council, on October 25, 1997, enacted Ordinance No. 3961, which extended the franchise an additional two-year period until April 30, 1999, and on April 17, 1999, enacted Ordinance No. 4039, which extended the franchise until April 30, 2000 and again, on April 15, 2000, enacted Ordinance No. 4126, which extended the franchise until April 30, 2001; and on May 12, 2001, enacted Ordinance No. 4202, which extended the franchise until April 30, 2002; and on May 18, 2002, enacted Ordinance No. 4249, which extended the franchise until April 30, 2003: and

WHEREAS, the negotiation of a new franchise has been delayed due to Verizon=s involvement with other ongoing business; and

WHEREAS, the city council has determined that it is in the public interest to extend for an additional one-year period the franchise granted by Ordinance No. 2165 to Verizon Virginia, Inc., as the successor to Bell Atlantic-Virginia, Incorporated, which was the successor to the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Virginia; now, therefore

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That, pursuant to Article VII, Section 9 of the Virginia Constitution and Article 1 of Chapter 21 of Title 15.2 of the Code of Virginia, Section 17 of Ordinance No. 2165, which defines the term of the franchise granted to the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Virginia and its successors and assigns, be, and the same hereby is, amended to set the term at 27 years, such that the franchise shall expire on April 30, 2004, unless sooner voluntarily surrendered by the franchisee with the consent of the city council, or unless sooner forfeited as provided by law.

Section 2. That Ordinance No. 2165, as amended by Section 1 of this ordinance, be, and the same hereby is, reordained.

Section 3. That this ordinance shall be effective upon the date and at the time of its final passage, and shall operate retroactively to extend the term of the franchise heretofore granted until April 30, 2004.

KERRY J. DONLEY
Mayor

Final Passage: June 14, 2003

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