

City of Ecorse
Receivership Transition Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 14, 2017
Ecorse City Hall
Council Chambers
Albert B. Buday Civic Center
3869 West Jefferson
Ecorse, Michigan 48229

RTAB MEMBERS PRESENT:

JEFF SYKES
ROBERT BOVITZ
JOAN BROPHY

Also Present:

ERIC CLINE, Michigan Department of Treasury

Reported by:

Nina Lunsford (CER 4539)
Modern Court Reporting & Video, LLC
SCAO FIRM NO. 08228
101-A North Lewis Street
Saline, Michigan 48176
(734) 429-9143/krs

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

Called to order at 9:03 a.m.

Ecorse, Michigan - Tuesday, November 14, 2017

*** * * * ***

MR. SYKES: Roll call.

MR. CLINE: Jeff Sykes?

MR. SYKES: Here.

MR. CLINE: Rob Bovitz?

MR. BOVITZ: Here.

MR. CLINE: Joan Brophy?

MS. BROPHY: Here.

MR. CLINE: Quorum present.

MR. SYKES: All right, thank you.

All right, so I will entertain a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

MS. BROPHY: So moved.

MR. BOVITZ: Support.

MR. SYKES: All those in favor say aye.

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MS. BROPHY: Aye.

MR. SYKES: Aye.

Those opposed the same.

(No response.)

MR. SYKES: The agenda has been approved.

I'd also like to remind the audience that if you intend to speak during the public comment portion of the

1 meeting, it will be necessary for you to sign the sheet at
2 the podium.

3 Next, we have approval of RTAB minutes of
4 October 10th, 2017. I would entertain a motion to approve
5 the October 10, 2017 RTAB minutes as presented.

6 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

7 MS. BROPHY: Support.

8 MR. SYKES: All those in favor say aye.

9 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

10 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

11 MR. SYKES: Aye.

12 Those opposed the same.

13 (No response.)

14 MR. SYKES: The RTAB minutes have been approved.

15 Next, we'll move on to old business, of which
16 there is none. So we'll go ahead and move on to new
17 business.

18 So first we have the approval of Resolutions and
19 Ordinances for city council meetings. First is the
20 Resolutions from the regular city council meeting of
21 September 26, 2017.

22 At this point I would entertain a motion to
23 approve the Resolutions from regular city council meeting
24 of September 26th, with the exception of Resolutions 649
25 and 650. I think those warrant maybe just a little bit

1 more discussion.

2 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

3 MS. BROPHY: Okay. Support.

4 MR. SYKES: All those in favor say aye.

5 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

6 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

7 MR. SYKES: Aye.

8 Those opposed the same.

9 (No response.)

10 MR. SYKES: Okay, the Resolutions have been
11 approved with the exception of 649 and 650.

12 So first I'd like to talk just a little bit
13 about, or maybe get a little additional information about
14 Resolution 649. Eric, is that something that you can help
15 with, or is there somebody here that would like to discuss
16 what's this particular Resolution?

17 MR. CLINE: Well, I can give you my initial
18 thoughts on it.

19 MR. SYKES: Okay.

20 MR. CLINE: The Resolution actually provides for
21 additional compensation for the DPW Superintendent based
22 upon additional duties that he has undertaken. I was a
23 little unclear and wanted to pull this out. Typically I
24 view this for certain issues, budgetary personnel. I
25 wasn't sure if this was a permanent situation or a

1 temporary one; that was unclear. It was a little unclear
2 if the -- how that would totally impact the budget. I
3 assume that funds are available for that but could not
4 verify that.

5 Also, I believe the Superintendent is a salaried
6 employee, so I wasn't sure totally on the impacts of
7 adding additional fees for that, how that played in with
8 some of the Fair Labor Standards regulations. It was not
9 totally clear who could answer that question at the city
10 or how that all came about, so I didn't know if you wanted
11 to get additional information on that, or if you were
12 comfortable with decision. So I wanted to at least give
13 you the option to either approve it or delay it until we
14 could get additional information if you had some specific
15 questions you wanted answered.

16 MR. SYKES: So a couple of things that, you
17 know, on the surface when you see, talking about overtime
18 compensation and, like you said, this is a professional
19 position and so there's a little bit of concern as to why
20 that is. If it turns out that maybe it's maybe
21 mislabeled, maybe get something along the lines of there
22 are extra duties, and so for a period of time it's sort of
23 maybe a working out of class type thing and that there
24 should be additional compensation for that; that might
25 make some sense.

1 But also, to your point, there's nothing that's
2 described about what the budgetary impact would be of
3 this, and actually a couple of other items that are coming
4 up.

5 Do any of the other board members have any
6 questions or concerns?

7 MR. BOVITZ: Yeah, I like your idea of a out of
8 the line of duty, because it looks like Mr. Lawrence was
9 filling in for a front line supervisor who was not
10 replaced, and so I would call it not overtime to set a
11 precedence there, but compensation because he was
12 fulfilling other duties. But not to set a precedence for
13 future --

14 MR. SYKES: Right.

15 MR. BOVITZ: -- case by case.

16 MS. BROPHY: Right, and would this be for a
17 limited time? I mean do we expect this front line
18 supervisor to be rehired? I guess that would be --

19 MR. BOVITZ: As it looks like, it's been going
20 on for a whole year, since September 12th of '16, and
21 letter to Sadowski was dated September 7th of '17.

22 MR. SYKES: So maybe what I would suggest we
23 could do is to hold off on this until we get a little bit
24 more information and maybe pass that at the next, or if
25 there's a special board meeting. I know I've heard --

1 MR. CLINE: I think that would be fair, you
2 know, with being -- it just makes it a bit difficult with
3 the transitions at the city, keeping up, you know, really
4 good communications and everything. So I don't think that
5 it would be terribly burdensome if this were postponed
6 until the board reconvenes on it and we can get some of
7 these questions resolved and go forward.

8 MR. SYKES: Is that okay with the other board
9 members?

10 MR. BOVITZ: Yeah, I hate to hold up, you know,
11 compensation that was earned over the last year but, you
12 know, if you feel there are too many loopholes here, or if
13 you think it's setting a precedence but, you know, the
14 other consideration too is the, not just the \$12,000 base
15 compensation; it's the deferred contribution and the other
16 benefits to make sure we have that all spelled out what
17 that's going to be.

18 MR. SYKES: Uh-huh. And I would think that if
19 ultimately this is something we vote for, could it go
20 retroactive back to the date at which this was first
21 brought to us?

22 MR. CLINE: My impression was that that was
23 being asked for in the original request, so.

24 MR. SYKES: Okay. So if that's the case then,
25 waiting a little bit longer really shouldn't unfairly take

1 compensation away from the individual.

2 MR. CLINE: I wouldn't believe so.

3 MR. SYKES: If it's approved. Okay.

4 MR. CLINE: I don't believe so.

5 MR. SYKES: So with that, I'd make a
6 recommendation that we hold off or table Resolution 649.

7 MS. BROPHY: Okay, so I'll make the motion to
8 postpone Resolution 649, approval to modify the contract
9 for Kevin Lawrence.

10 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

11 MR. SYKES: All those in favor say aye.

12 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

13 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

14 MR. SYKES: Aye.

15 Those opposed the same.

16 (No response.)

17 MR. SYKES: Okay, this Resolution is postponed.

18 Next, we move on to Resolution 650. This one is
19 a little bit similar in that it's an extension for Michael
20 Moore, the public safety director. There isn't really a
21 discussion about budgetary impact in there, and so it
22 seems that this is something that should be addressed in
23 making this determination. But there's a couple of things
24 in there also that seem a little out of line with -- and I
25 could be wrong, but when we're looking at some of the

1 modifications that are taking place, like I believe it's
2 vacation days from 20 to 30, and sick days from 24 to 36,
3 I'm not sure if it's clear or not if those are also, if
4 they're not used it's paid out at the end, but it seems --
5 those seem a bit high. So I'd be curious if that's in
6 line with other positions, or, you know, what it is that
7 justifies those days, and then also it'd be probably a
8 good idea to have a look at the budgetary impact.

9 Do you have any additional information on that,
10 Eric, or is that much in line with --

11 MR. CLINE: No, I -- to be consistent with the
12 previous issue, I isolated that one as well for your
13 consideration. I don't have any additional information to
14 add at this point on that.

15 MR. BOVITZ: Well, the way I read it, it was the
16 original contract, which began November 1st of '15, was
17 for a two-year period, so it was originally going to end
18 November 1 of '17. So what it's asking for is a 12 month
19 extension. So you're going from two weeks to -- 20 to 30
20 days just -- it's not adding days; it's just taking the
21 extra 10 days to fulfill a third year commitment. So it's
22 not -- but if you need more information --

23 MS. BROPHY: Okay.

24 MR. SYKES: Oh.

25 MR. BOVITZ: But it's just amending --

1 MS. BROPHY: I see.

2 MR. BOVITZ: -- the current employment contract
3 to go from a two year to a three year, so consequently the
4 days should go from 20 to 30, and 24 to 36 to fulfill a
5 three-year timeframe.

6 MR. SYKES: Perfect. Thank you for that.

7 MS. BROPHY: Thank you.

8 MR. SYKES: Yeah, that is very helpful.

9 MR. BOVITZ: I mean if that's --

10 MR. SYKES: Yeah. No, I looked at it, too, and
11 I -- and yeah. No, I think -- hearing what you're saying
12 when you're reading it.

13 MR. BOVITZ: It's to extend the current contract
14 which is going to expire November 1st of this year, to go
15 another 12. So the original contract is still in place;
16 it's just amending it to allow for the vacation days and
17 the sick time.

18 MR. SYKES: Okay. So with that, you know, this
19 kind of falls in the same category I believe, or does the
20 contract actually expire prior to the next meeting?

21 MR. CLINE: It could very well.

22 MR. SYKES: It does?

23 MS. BROPHY: It may have already.

24 MR. SYKES: Okay.

25 MS. BROPHY: Yeah.

1 MR. SYKES: All right. So with that additional
2 information, I would think that we don't want to see the
3 contract, there be a gap in there.

4 MR. BOVITZ: I guess that's the question is why
5 wasn't the new two-year contract negotiated and in place
6 by now? Why is this -- was it because of the transition,
7 I assume?

8 But I think because we're already into the third
9 year of the extended contract, let's approve through
10 November 30th of 2018 and then work with negotiations on
11 the next contract. Because you have a whole brand new
12 team of administration here, too.

13 MR. SYKES: Right.

14 MS. BROPHY: True. I would agree with that.

15 So I make a motion to approve Resolution 650,
16 the approval of the contract extension for Michael Moore,
17 with the adjustments.

18 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

19 We should get any kind of comment from the city.

20 Is anybody here qualified to speak on that?

21 We have some interested parties.

22 MR. SYKES: All right.

23 MR. BOVITZ: Okay. All right, well, that's all
24 I had.

25 MR. SYKES: All right, all those in favor say

1 aye.

2 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

3 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

4 MR. SYKES: Aye.

5 Those opposed the same.

6 (No response.)

7 MR. SYKES: Somewhat reluctantly Resolution 650
8 has been approved.

9 All right, next we have Resolutions from regular
10 city council meeting of October 10th, 2017.

11 I will entertain a motion to approve these
12 Resolutions from regular city council meeting October
13 10th, 2017, with the exception of Resolution 664 and 665.

14 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

15 MS. BROPHY: Support.

16 MR. SYKES: All those in favor say aye.

17 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

18 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

19 MR. SYKES: Aye.

20 Those opposed the same.

21 (No response.)

22 MR. SYKES: These Resolutions have passed.

23 Okay, the first one -- and we might find
24 ourselves in a spot to, where maybe there isn't somebody
25 at the time to be able to discuss these, but just, I was

1 going to see if there's any way we could get any
2 additional light on the intergovernmental agreement with
3 Wayne County Land Bank Corporation?

4 MR. CLINE: Mr. Chair, I did have a conversation
5 about those. I don't have any particular concerns about
6 that particular agreement, nor do I have any particular
7 concerns about Resolution 665, which is the hiring of the
8 IT director position.

9 MR. SYKES: Okay.

10 MR. CLINE: I initially thought that, you know,
11 to be consistent with the other issues, we may need to
12 isolate the 665 --

13 MR. SYKES: Yep.

14 MR. CLINE: -- but in subsequent discussions,
15 I'm comfortable with that particular decision, so.

16 MR. SYKES: Okay. Well?

17 MR. BOVITZ: I think 664 is just an agreement
18 with the Land Bank to work an intergovernmental agreement
19 to be cooperative; I don't see anything, any budget
20 constraints there.

21 And as far as 665, an IT director contract, I
22 don't think that's out of the ordinary. So I would have
23 no problem with those.

24 MR. SYKES: Okay, with that then, I will
25 entertain a motion to approve Resolution 664 and 665.

1 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

2 MS. BROPHY: Support.

3 MR. SYKES: All those in favor say aye.

4 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

5 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

6 MR. SYKES: Aye.

7 Those opposed the same.

8 (No response.)

9 MR. SYKES: So 664 and 665 have been approved.

10 Next we have, and again I'm going to pull one

11 out and we'll take, just potentially for discussion,

12 entertain a motion for approval of Resolutions from the

13 regular city council meeting of October 24th, 2017, with

14 the exception of Resolution 671. All those in --

15 MS. BROPHY: So moved.

16 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

17 MR. SYKES: All those in favor say aye.

18 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

19 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

20 MR. SYKES: Aye.

21 These Resolutions have been approved. So this

22 is kind of consistent, again, with what we've been

23 discussing is the Resolution 671 is the hiring of full-

24 time water tech; that there wasn't anything to discuss the

25 budgetary impact of this, so this is sort of consistent

1 with the previous.

2 Do you have any additional information on --

3 MR. CLINE: I do know that my initial concern
4 was the hiring of three technicians without knowing the
5 total impact on the budget. However, as it has been
6 identified, city council elected to only hire one
7 individual. I'm not entirely clear as to rationale for
8 that.

9 MR. SYKES: Okay.

10 MR. CLINE: So if they are replacement
11 positions, the assumption could be made that there is
12 sufficient funds in the budget to handle one position.
13 Three I would question a little more strongly, but with
14 one position, it could be a needed position, it could be a
15 replacement; that might be something that the city could
16 financially absorb in terms of the budgetary impact if we
17 didn't want to create an unanticipated gap in their
18 staffing. You know, I could see that, where you could
19 move forward in approving that, and then if they come back
20 with a positions, that would give us the opportunity to
21 dig a little deeper into that.

22 MR. SYKES: Okay. Do you have any questions?
23 Any questions?

24 MS. BROPHY: No.

25 MR. SYKES: No? Okay.

1 With that, I will entertain a motion to approve
2 Resolution 671.

3 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

4 MS. BROPHY: Support.

5 MR. SYKES: All those in favor say aye.

6 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

7 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

8 MR. SYKES: Aye.

9 Those opposed the same.

10 (No response.)

11 MR. SYKES: Resolution 671 has been approved.

12 Next is Resolutions from special city council
13 meeting of November 1st. There were no Resolutions
14 adapted at this meeting, therefore no board action is
15 necessary.

16 So next we move on to the claims and accounts
17 from regular city council meeting draft minutes of
18 November 7th, 2017. I will entertain a motion to approve
19 the claims and accounts from regular city council meeting
20 draft minutes of November 7th, 2017.

21 MS. BROPHY: So moved.

22 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

23 MR. SYKES: All those in favor say aye.

24 MR. BOVITZ: Well, just one discussion.

25 MR. SYKES: Oops. Go ahead.

1 MR. BOVITZ: It's just, usually a formality, and
2 I know we'll probably talk about it next month when we'll
3 officially address this meeting, but Resolution 677, all
4 present -- mayor and council were present, but then
5 Councilman Sammons abstained from approving the minutes.
6 So I'd just, next month I'd like to know, you know,
7 usually it's a formality to approve the minutes, and I was
8 wondering if he had any kind of correction or dispute with
9 what was reported at the October 24th meeting.

10 MS. HUGHES: I can answer that question. He
11 wasn't at that meeting, that's why he abstained.

12 MR. BOVITZ: Oh, he abstained because he didn't
13 qualify to vote. Okay. All right, that's --

14 MR. SYKES: That is a great answer. Thank you.

15 MS. HUGHES: You're welcome.

16 MR. BOVITZ: All right, that's all.

17 MR. SYKES: All right, so next we'll move on --
18 oh, did we fully -- did we vote on that completely?

19 MR. BOVITZ: No.

20 MR. CLINE: No.

21 MR. SYKES: Okay, so let's go back, and I'll
22 entertain a motion to approve the claims and accounts for
23 regular city council meeting draft minutes of November
24 7th, 2017.

25 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

1 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

2 MR. CLINE: We already had a motion.

3 MR. SYKES: Oh, I'm sorry.

4 All those in favor say aye.

5 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

6 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

7 MR. SYKES: Aye.

8 Those opposed the same.

9 (No response.)

10 MR. SYKES: Motion has been approved.

11 Next we have city administrator items. First is

12 the approval of city council minutes. That was addressed

13 in new business.

14 Next we have the approval of overtime

15 compensation. This was discussed in new business.

16 There was also the extension of the contract for

17 Michael Moore. This was addressed in new business.

18 Next there's the approval of water distribution

19 system. This was addressed in new business.

20 There was the approval to hire three full-time

21 water technicians, which apparently appears to be two, so.

22 MR. CLINE: One.

23 MR. SYKES: Or one, but in total there should be

24 two based on our discussion I believe. So this was

25 addressed in new business.

1 Next is the approval of new hires and public
2 safety. This was addressed in new business.

3 Number 7 is checks released. This is
4 informational only.

5 MR. BOVITZ: There is one question I had there
6 because we haven't had any checks in the last few months,
7 but I noticed on the memo from Dana there's, it says
8 cement concrete. Was that just inadvertently left in or
9 was it --

10 MS. HUGHES: Yeah, that was an accident.

11 MR. BOVITZ: Okay, so there were not checks --

12 MS. HUGHES: No.

13 MR. BOVITZ: -- so Exhibit G is correct. Okay.

14 MR. SYKES: So next we have the approval of
15 budget to actual September and October.

16 Do we have somebody that could give us some
17 additional information on this? Or discussion?

18 MR. FLATEN: I can't do that because I haven't
19 totally reviewed it yet. Perhaps Marcia --

20 MS. COTTON: I can't answer any questions right
21 now. As you know, Tim Sadowski left just about a week
22 ago.

23 MR. SYKES: Uh-huh.

24 MS. COTTON: And I have been still the deputy
25 controller and responsible for HR and getting acclimated

1 to a lot of the things that Tim Sadowski did. So my focus
2 this week has primarily been on getting the tax bills out
3 by December 1st, and getting the taxes distributed that
4 were collected through the 31st, and some of the HR
5 issues, and still some of the deputy controller issues.
6 So I have not had an opportunity to thoroughly look at the
7 revenue and expenditure report to address it.

8 MR. SYKES: Okay.

9 MS. COTTON: Okay.

10 MR. SYKES: Well, I didn't, in looking at them,
11 didn't have anything specific.

12 Do any other board members have questions?

13 MR. BOVITZ: I'm just curious to see how the
14 audit is progress with Randy Darnell.

15 MS. BROPHY: I think they know.

16 MR. FLATEN: To answer your question on that,
17 Bob, I spoke with Randy yesterday. He'll be coming in
18 tomorrow to review the audit report with me and Marcia
19 before he makes a presentation to council, hopefully the
20 first meeting in December.

21 MR. BOVITZ: Okay.

22 MR. SYKES: Okay. With that, then I will
23 entertain a motion to approve budget to actual reports for
24 September and October.

25 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

MS. BROPHY: Support.

MR. SYKES: All those in favor say aye.

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MS. BROPHY: Aye.

MR. SYKES: Aye.

Those opposed the same.

(No response.)

MR. SYKES: This motion has passed.

Next we have the 25th District Court compliance plan for the cities of Ecorse, Lincoln Park, and River Rouge. This was informational only.

Do we have any questions?

MR. BOVITZ: I think it's important, I had lunch with Judge Greg Clifton. He came to our Trenton Rotary Club meeting two weeks ago and was talking about Families Against Narcotics and the drug court and some of the issues that they're facing at the district court level, and I think, as I was reading through the proposal, I think it's very important that we invest in the court system to make sure that they have the resources to process these issues and, you know, and return these defendants to, you know, a proper place in society, and it looks like they're really lacking some needed resources. But I think that -- that's not a request for additional funding; that's just a compliance type thing.

1 MS. BROPHY: Yes.

2 MR. BOVITZ: Okay.

3 MR. SYKES: Uh-huh.

4 MR. BOVITZ: But.

5 MR. SYKES: Okay. Next we have the approval of
6 the appointment of city administrator. Now, a moment ago
7 I thought we heard, is there a discussion about are we
8 moving forward with Number 10 and 11, or are we --

9 MR. CLINE: Yeah, I would recommend, what the
10 city council has done is they have agreed to open
11 negotiations with their candidate for city administrator.
12 So I think I order to facilitate that part of the process
13 I would suggest that the board consider moving forward
14 with that. It doesn't mean that the individual is
15 appointed. They've got to come to terms. And then what I
16 would anticipate happening is that at some point they will
17 make a request perhaps for a special meeting for us to
18 reconvene and address that appointment official. But at
19 this point we're just authorizing or affirming them moving
20 forward with the negotiation process.

21 MR. SYKES: Okay, thank you. So this is the
22 approval of appointment of city administrator. This is an
23 action -- or while this action on this item occurred
24 during a city council meeting outside the normal review
25 period of today's board meeting, the city manager's

1 request to bring this item forward for early review is
2 merited.

3 I don't suppose that there's anyone that would
4 like to discuss this further?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. SYKES: All right.

7 MR. WYCOFF: Yes, we are going to be asking for
8 a special meeting probably right after the next city
9 council -- excuse me. Apparently it will occur right
10 after the next city council meeting, and we also have a
11 second issue that is likely to arise at the same time
12 concerning any settlement of the lawsuit involving the
13 City of Lincoln Park and Wayne County, and so I don't have
14 those for you today unfortunately. We got a little
15 squiggle in the system. I think that it should -- they'll
16 have a special meeting immediately following the city
17 council meeting, the last one and this one.

18 MR. SYKES: All right, thank you.

19 MR. WYCOFF: Thank you.

20 MR. SYKES: All right, with that I'll entertain
21 a motion to approve the appointment of city administrator.

22 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

23 MS. BROPHY: Support.

24 MR. SYKES: All those in favor say aye.

25 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

MS. BROPHY: Aye.

MR. SYKES: Aye.

Those opposed the same.

(No response.)

MR. SYKES: This motion has passed.

Next is approval of appointment of city controller. Again, this is an action item that occurred during the city council meetings outside normal review period for today's board meeting. The city manager's request to bring this item forward also has merit.

Is this something that we would like some further discussion on? It kind of falls within the same category.

MR. CLINE: No, I would agree, they need to have a controller in place. The deputy controller who spoke earlier has been appointed as the interim. I think that would be appropriate to move forward with that and get that secured so they don't have any gaps in the operation.

MR. SYKES: Any further comments, questions?

All right. I'll entertain a motion to approve the appointment of the city controller.

MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

MS. BROPHY: Support.

MR. SYKES: All those in favor say aye.

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

MS. BROPHY: Aye.

MR. SYKES: Aye.

Those opposed the same.

(No response.)

MR. SYKES: This motion has passed.

MR. BOVITZ: Just a point of order, I may have missed it. Did we vote on -- did we suspend or approve the budget to actual?

MR. SYKES: We approved it.

MS. BROPHY: We approved it.

MR. BOVITZ: Okay. All right.

MR. SYKES: At this point we have public comment.

MR. CLINE: Just one individual. Mike Moore.

MR. MOORE: Good morning.

MR. SYKES: Good morning.

MR. MOORE: The only thing I have here is in reference to our safety department and as far as the new hires.

We've been getting new hires in and we've been using extreme vetting process. We use the Michigan State Police and through their DRANO unit, and as far as our appointments, when we start talking about the positions that are budgeted or that are not using city dollars, we've got, as far as our SAFER grant that came in where

1 we're not using any city funds and we're trying to get
2 people in positions to stop overtime bleeding, and what's
3 happening is, I guess, I went to Mr. Sadowski and he
4 contacted the state and they would not let us start
5 anybody until they came to this body, and we were trying
6 to figure out some method to where if we're not using city
7 funds, we're using grant dollars or we're using dollars
8 that have already been budgeted. For instance, in the
9 police department we have got three positions that are
10 full-time tier one budgeted positions and we're filling
11 them right now with part-time positions which will not
12 affect the budget in any way.

13 To give you a good example, we're paying our
14 part-time police officers, it was \$15 an hour, but it's
15 \$16.50, where other departments are paying them \$25 an
16 hour, for instance Dearborn, and it's kind of tough for us
17 to be competitive to try to get people in here, and for
18 instance, we've got one guy that we can get, we can start.
19 But he's -- he's emailing, he emailed me as late as
20 yesterday, and we have to wait until we get before the
21 body before we can get them a starting date. We've
22 actually had an occasion to where we had people lined up
23 where we had to wait and then we lost them to another
24 department because of the process we have to go through.

25 Is there any way that if we're not using city

1 money that, like grant dollars, or if we're using money
2 that has already been allocated and we're not affecting
3 the budget in any way, is there a process we could come up
4 with now to where we can go ahead and start these
5 individuals?

6 MR. SYKES: I mean it definitely makes a lot of
7 sense what you're saying. Probably need a little bit of
8 time to talk about it, and maybe it's something that we
9 can investigate.

10 MR. CLINE: I would agree. I believe there were
11 a couple of positions that were hired in the general
12 blanket thing today, but we certainly can talk about that,
13 and I --

14 MR. MOORE: I could put something in writing for
15 mister --

16 MR. CLINE: No, that would be great.

17 MR. MOORE: -- and then he can forward it to the
18 TAB.

19 MR. CLINE: Yeah, I don't recall that
20 conversation coming up with Mr. Sadowski, so this is kind
21 of a new conversation for me. So certainly if you have
22 any information, pass it along, and I would like to take a
23 look at it, and maybe we could talk briefly right after
24 the meeting.

25 MR. MOORE: All right, thank you.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

MR. SYKES: Thank you.

Next we have board comment. Any board comment?

MS. BROPHY: No.

MR. SYKES: Board comment?

Next I will entertain a motion to for
adjournment.

MS. BROPHY: So moved.

MR. BOVITZ: Support.

MR. SYKES: All those in favor say aye.

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MS. BROPHY: Aye.

MR. SYKES: Aye.

We are adjourned.

(Proceedings adjourned at 9:31 a.m.)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF WASHTENAW) .ss

I certify that this transcript is a complete, true, and correct transcript to the best of my ability of the RTAB meeting held on November 14, 2017, City of Ecorse. I also certify that I am not a relative or employee of the parties involved and have no financial interest in this case.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: November 22, 2017

s/ Amy Shankleton-Novess

Amy Shankleton-Novess (CER 0838)
Certified Electronic Reporter