

APPROVED - 1/13/15

City of Ecorse
Receivership Transition Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 9, 2014
Ecorse City Hall
Council Chambers
Albert B. Buday Civic Center
3869 West Jefferson
Ecorse, Michigan 48229

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1 (At 9:01 a.m. meeting called to order.)

2 MR. KORYZNO: Good morning, it's 9:01, and I'll call the
3 City of Ecorse Receivership Transition Advisory Board to order. Mr.
4 Van de Grift, roll call?

5 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Robert Bovitz?

6 MR. BOVITZ: Here.

7 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Joyce Parker?

8 (No audible response)

9 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Ed Koryzno?

10 MR. KORYZNO: Here. I'll note for the audience that Ms.
11 Parker's calling in, and will be participating by phone in the
12 meeting. But pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, she cannot vote.

13 Next item is approval of the agenda. I would like to add
14 reconsideration of the RTAB evaluation and letter for technical
15 amendments to the agenda.

16 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

17 MR. KORYZNO: Support. All in favor?

18 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

19 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Let's add that to Item E, under old
20 business.

21 Next item is Item C, approval of the RTAB minutes of
22 November 18th, 2014, with noted clarifications.

23 MR. BOVITZ: Move that we adopt the minutes, as corrected.

24 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any further discussion? Seeing
25 none, all in favor of the motion say aye.

1 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

2 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed, same sign.

3 Motion is approved.

4 Number two on the agenda is old business, five year
5 budget. Because the City has hired an Interim City Administrator,
6 it is expected that a realistic and balanced five year budget will
7 be prepared without delay. The Board will recall that the mandate
8 to develop an RTAB approved five year budget was originally ordered
9 by Emergency Manager Parker on April 30th, 2013.

10 Mr. O'Neal, can you give us an update on whether this has
11 been completed or not?

12 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the
13 RTAB board. Discussions I've had with Mr. McCurley, our controller,
14 since the three weeks I've been here. Yesterday, we finalized
15 probably 95 percent of the five year budget. The budget for the
16 2000 -- major budget adjustments to the 2014-15 budget. The first
17 year budget for the 2015-16, and the remainder of the five year
18 budget.

19 Remaining for me to do, is to meet with my department
20 heads, and discuss several options for decreasing of expenditures
21 and also I was looking for areas of expenditures, and relative to
22 the next item on the agenda, the five year budget and the major
23 budget adjustments for the 2014-15 fiscal year, will be covered
24 without the use of fund balances, directed by Ms. Parker, without
25 looking at the major budget and doing an overall look, and we've

1 done that. And we're able to provide those expenditures without the
2 use of existing fund balance.

3 We've identified additional revenues, and those ~~addition~~ *additional*
4 ~~of~~ revenues are not monies, I believe, that were a million dollars
5 from the United States to put in a piggy bank; we're talking about
6 revenues over and above that. So we're looking at revenue neutral
7 for 2014-15 relative to the budget amendments, but we're also
8 anticipating an increase in fund balance for the 14-15 year.

9 Our goal is to, in the five year budget, is to try to make
10 that as neutral as possible, per the direction of the RTAB board, of
11 using fund balance. That's our goal. Depending on my discussions
12 with the department heads and how we can reduce some costs, and some
13 modifications that were done, that Mr. Strand had done to the five
14 year budget, we're looking to get this as neutral as possible,
15 knowing full well that in the 15-16 budget year, we're looking at an
16 increase in MERS of about \$500,000. And we're looking at that
17 escalating over the next few years; we're also anticipating
18 additional expenditures for cost of living, of just overall budget
19 area, that go up.

20 And while we realize that once we get at the end of that
21 five year budget, that the ~~\$500,00~~ *\$500,000* loan payment kicks in, we're
22 taking all that into effect, and so that's why I need to talk to my
23 department heads. We hope to have that to you, to the TAB board,
24 and approved and gone forward in the first meeting in January, so, I
25 hope to have a, and coupled with that, if I may, Mr. Chairman, there

1 was -- the RTAB had asked about goals and objectives, and the vision
2 thing that was going on.

3 We're looking at all that, and I'm going to develop --
4 notify the Mayor and the Council about those things. We're going to
5 move forward with that. The goals and objectives, and the whole
6 budgetary thing at one time, and I'm hoping to have as much of that
7 done within the next 30 days, knowing full well we've got the
8 holidays. But I want the Board to know that that five year budget
9 is done. It's, fine tuning it so that you like, I like it -- well,
10 we're not going to like it. But we're doing the best we can with
11 it, is what I'm trying to say.

12 MR. KORYZNO: For the record, could you identify yourself,
13 please? I forgot to ask you to do that.

14 MR. O'NEAL: I'm sorry, D. Wayne O'Neal, the Interim City
15 Administrator.

16 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

17 MR. O'NEAL: So, we're doing the best we can with it. And
18 I've got a lot of moving parts here, Mr. Chairman, as you well know,
19 and so, I'm just happy that was -- it's not all brand new, because I
20 would be, still stepping in postholes, I'd be in quicksand, but it's
21 good, so, we're moving forward. So you'll be pleased to know that.

22 MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you. Any questions for Mr.
23 O'Neal, from the board members? Seeing none, we'll move on. Item
24 B, approval of Resolution 356.14, budget amendment 2015-4, purchases
25 for DPW. Mr. O'Neal, has the City responded to board member

1 Parker's request, concerns, so this amendment is budget neutral.²
2 You just mentioned in your report you did so. It would be my
3 preference, before we move on this, take action on this, is that we
4 see how the budget appears on paper and so that we can confirm its
5 impact on the current budget, and then the five year budget.

6 MR. O'NEAL: And I agree with that, Mr. Chairman. One
7 thing I was -- I would like to bring up, there are some bills and
8 some outstanding bills that need to be paid. And I have sliced and
9 diced them. Looked at them, and I believe that they should be paid.
10 I know that you didn't -- you're not approving the budget
11 adjustment. But we are absolutely being badgered about payment.
12 They have provided the services.

13 I don't want to slight the Board and pay those payments
14 without the proper process, but the Board needs to know that while
15 we need to do the budget adjustments, and I've indicated that we've
16 made them revenue neutral relative to the current fiscal year. We
17 need to move forward and pay those, pay the bills. And I want to
18 move forward with that, and I want to move forward through the right
19 process. And I'm not sure if they've come to the TAB board at all,
20 or not.

21 But I will move through the proper process, so if you see
22 them, come through, it's not meant to slight the TAB board and if
23 you agree to not pay them because you don't like the budget, well
24 that's another issue. But we need to move that process as well.

1 MR. KORYZNO: I understand. But I can't emphasize enough
2 that procedure needs to be followed.

3 MR. O'NEAL: I hear you loud and clear, and Mr. Van de
4 Grift and I had a talk about that in the hallway just now, and I
5 assured him, as I assured you before, I'm not going to do anything
6 administratively unless it's absolutely, the world's coming to an
7 end. I get it. Thank you.

8 MR. KORYZNO: All right. I will leave this item on the
9 table. Item C, approval of Resolution 357.14, budget amendment
10 2015-5, body camera purchase. All right, so.

11 MR. BOVITZ: Any update on the state grant requirements?

12 MR. MOORE: Mike Moore, Public Safety Director. As you
13 probably have seen, the president came down with something about
14 these body cameras; this is a big hotbed issue. As for current
15 events nationally, we have some issues going on currently. From
16 what I've heard, Michigan may possibly be exempt, even though the
17 president did come down with something with these grants.

18 I've just recently read something about Michigan not
19 qualifying, or somebody came down and said that Michigan somehow was
20 going to be exempt, how they didn't, well, some politician put
21 something in it that they didn't want it or something. I'm looking.

22 MS. BOOMS: Cassandra Booms, City Attorney. It was a
23 newspaper article I saw about, I can't remember what it was,
24 something in the legislature. Moving to have not Michigan accept

1 federal funding but for Michigan as a state to seek its own local
2 funding. So then we wouldn't be able to get the federal money.

3 And where they thought that local funding was going to
4 come from, I don't know, but it wasn't looking good for us, at least
5 for the federal money. It's not, I don't think it's complete yet,
6 like it's a final answer.

7 MR. MOORE: Also, I've had three vendors -- two vendors
8 already come in. I've got a third that I've been looking to come
9 in, to demonstrate these cameras. But just like body armor, these,
10 if these things are mandated, usually the vendors come in with a
11 grant application in hand. The last time I bought body armor, he
12 came in, here it is, you can get half this paid for. We filled it
13 out, and they paid for half of it, the federal government did.

14 So, I'm expecting that type of, same type of thing. If
15 they come in, the vendors come in, we, if funding is available,
16 they'll have that available, too. So it's still up in the air,
17 pretty much as Attorney Booms says.

18 MR. KORYZNO: All right. Very good, thank you. I would
19 recommend that this remain on the table as well. Item D, approval
20 of Resolution 372.14, budget amendment 2015-3, Master Plan
21 amendment.

22 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I may, I'd just
23 like to talk about that a little bit.

24 MR. KORYZNO: For the record, Mr. O'Neal?

1 MR. O'NEAL: D. Wayne O'Neal, Interim City Administrator.
2 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

4 MR. O'NEAL: I want the board to know that we're moving
5 forward with the Master Plan. We received a \$15,000 grant; there's
6 a match from the City. Part of that component was to do the
7 Recreation Master Plan, as well as the City's overall Master Plan.
8 As you know, Mr. Chairman and members of the Board, that the Master
9 Plan is required to be updated on the five year basis, and we
10 haven't updated our Master Plan in some time.

11 This will put us in good stead for grants, so, that being
12 said, I don't want to slight the Board by moving forward through
13 McKinnon Associates about doing this process, relative to the fact
14 that we do have that grant money available. And we need to keep the
15 process going. I want to also, as part of that Master Plan process,
16 I want to dovetail it in, the goals and objectives with the Mayor
17 and the Council, relative to where we're going with the budget and
18 all that.

19 The Master Plan is a perfect tool to help facilitate that,
20 so I want you to know that, same comments as before, in the budget,
21 and these additional comments.

22 MR. KORYZNO: Before you sit down, Mr. O'Neal -- the grant
23 pays for what percentage of the cost of the Master Plan?

1 MR. O'NEAL: Well, I believe the cost of the Master Plan,
2 I want to say that, talking with Mr. McKinnon, it was around
3 \$12,000. Something like that.

4 MR. KORYZNO: So that's the cost of the Master Plan?

5 MR. O'NEAL: Yeah, he gave us an Ecorse price.

6 MR. KORYZNO: And the amount of the grant is?

7 MR. O'NEAL: Well, the grant itself is \$15,000, but part
8 of the element is also the Recreation Master Plan. And I think that
9 was ~~six~~ ^{\$6,000} or ~~seven~~ ^{\$7,000}. I don't have the numbers right in front of me,
10 but.

11 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Having the benefit of having -- Drew
12 Van de Grift, Department of Treasury. The budget amendment request
13 was for \$16,500, of which \$11,380 would draw on a state grant. The
14 balance of \$5,120 would be paid from fund balance as it was
15 submitted.

16 MR. KORYZNO: Okay, so again, we have the same issue?

17 MR. O'NEAL: Same issue, yes sir.

18 MR. KORYZNO: Okay, questions from the Board for Mr.
19 O'Neal? Ms. Parker, any questions?

20 MS. PARKER: No, there's no questions.

21 MR. KORYZNO: All right, then we'll leave this item on the
22 table as well. Next item is the addition to the agenda, Item E,
23 reconsideration of RTAB evaluation and transmittal letter. I asked
24 the Board to consider adding this item to the agenda, and recommend
25 that the RTAB evaluation and transmittal letter to the Governor

1 receive suggested technical amendments, to resolve some
2 inconsistency between the evaluation itself and the transmittal
3 letter to the Governor.

4 I'll start with the letter. The Treasury Department
5 officials feel that the, believe, that a recommendation is warranted
6 to the Governor regarding status of the RTAB here in the community.
7 The letter did not contain a recommendation and so, I'm suggesting
8 to the Board that the letter be amended to read, first paragraph
9 (reading) "On May 1st, 2013, you appointed the Ecorse Receivership
10 Transition Advisory Board," that was just termed Receivership
11 Transition Advisory Board before. Then the last sentence would be,
12 "It is the recommendation of the Ecorse RTAB that the City remain in
13 receivership".

14 That's the addition to the letter. Then the technical
15 amendments to the evaluation document itself, on Section 1, a
16 compliance with the deficit elimination plan. The first question
17 that -- section, says that, "Has submission of a debt been, a
18 deficit elimination plan, been required?"

19 The answer was no, but then the last question in that
20 section reads, "Is the community in compliance with the deficit
21 elimination plan provisions?" And the answer was yes, so, if
22 there's no requirement for a plan, how can you be in compliance? So
23 we, my recommendation is to change that, not to, to not applicable.

24 The next technical amendment would be in Section 1,
25 organizational stability. "Does the local unit ~~employee~~ ^{employ} a

1 professional chief administrative officer?" The answer was yes,
2 that would remain the same. However, under the optional comments,
3 to date, the City has contracted with four city administrators.
4 Which is factual.

5 The next technical amendment would be under Section 2, the
6 degree of RTAB oversight. The question, "Has the local unit been
7 providing timely and complete information to properly made requests
8 from the RTAB?" The answer is yes, will remain yes, but under the
9 optional comments, with exceptions, in adding, including a failure
10 to submit a proper five year budget. The City has responded to the
11 RTAB requests.

12 And then the last technical amendments would be under,
13 continue under Section 2, level of effort. Question, "Is the local
14 unit working cooperatively with the RTAB to accomplish identified
15 priorities?" The previous answer was yes, the proposed answer is
16 no. And that's because of the failure to provide a five year
17 budget, failure to adopt a CGAP grant that was recommended by the
18 Board, the continued turnover in city administrator appointments,
19 and now, the departure of Plante Moran.

20 And then lastly, under level of effort, "Has the local
21 unit refused to or failed to take actions required by state law ~~for~~ ^{or}
22 emergency manager order?" Previous answer was yes, proposed answer
23 is no. Or excuse me, the proposed -- previous answer was no, the
24 proposed answer is yes, and that refers to the emergency manager
25 order requiring Plante Moran to have remained in the employ of the

1 City until June of 2015. And the five year -- failure to adopt the
2 five year budget. So, board members, do you have any questions
3 regarding the technical amendments? Ms. Parker?

4 MS. PARKER: Not -- no.

5 MR. KORYZNO: Mr. Bovitz?

6 MR. KORYZNO: All right. Then I would entertain a motion
7 to approve the technical amendments, and send them to the Governor.

8 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

9 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any further discussion?

10 MR. BOVITZ: Just feel like we've been audited by the
11 state.

12 MR. KORYZNO: We want to make sure that when this report
13 goes to the Governor, that it's proper. Seeing no further
14 discussion, all in favor of the motion say aye.

15 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

16 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed, same sign. Motion's
17 approved. All right. Continuing on, section of new business. Item
18 A, approval of resolutions and ordinances for City Council meetings.
19 Item 1, resolutions from regular City Council meeting of October
20 28th, 2014. I'll entertain a motion.

21 MR. BOVITZ: Move to accept the minutes from the 2000 --
22 or, October 28th, 2014, with the exception of Resolution 388.14.

23 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any discussion? Seeing none, all
24 in favor of the motion say aye.

25 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

1 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed, same sign. The motion is
2 approved. Resolution 388.14, the Board has not received any
3 information about this matter; is the City Attorney's office
4 satisfied that this notice to proceed is proper?

5 MS. BOOMS: Cassandra Booms, City Attorney. I can speak
6 to this. What happened -- is the Board aware of or understand the
7 concept of the notice to proceed?

8 MR. KORYZNO: Yes.

9 MS. BOOMS: Okay. Usually, the city would give the notice
10 to proceed. In this particular case, Hennessy did it for the city
11 without the council taking action, because Hennessy gave the notice
12 to proceed. The City Attorney's office then went to the council;
13 council made that motion after the fact, basically, after Hennessy
14 did it. While this is not the usual order of contracts of this
15 nature, it doesn't expose the City to any additional liability; it's
16 just not the usual practice.

17 And it's -- I know Mr. Wycoff is much more familiar with
18 this than I am because he has specifically reviewed these contracts
19 and I haven't, but I spoke with him yesterday, and that was the
20 general consensus, that we were just, Hennessy gave the letter, we
21 were following up after the fact. And there was no reason that the
22 project shouldn't continue as is. Does that satisfy all the
23 answers?

24 MR. KORYZNO: I think so; Mr. Bovitz, Ms. Parker, any
25 questions?

1 MS. PARKER: No.

2 MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you.

3 MS. BOOMS: All right, thank you.

4 MR. BOVITZ: Move that we accept Resolution 388.14 as part
5 of the October 28, 2014 council meeting.

6 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any further discussion? Been
7 moved and supported to approve Resolution 388.14, all in favor of
8 the motion say aye.

9 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

10 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign. Motion is
11 approved. Item 2, resolutions from regular City Council meeting of
12 November 10, 2014.

13 MR. BOVITZ: Move to accept the minutes of November 10th,
14 2014 council meeting with the exception of Resolution 403.14.

15 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any further discussion? Seeing
16 none, all in favor of the motion say aye.

17 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

18 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign. Motion is
19 approved. Resolution 403.14, the Board has not received any
20 information about this matter. Mr. O'Neal, can you speak to the
21 reasons why the City is withdrawing from the Wayne County Library?

22 MR. O'NEAL: I think Cassandra's chomping at the bit.

23 MS. BOOMS: Cassandra Booms, from the City Attorney's
24 office. Wayne, by all means, if you want to speak to it, you're
25 welcome to. I know I just sent him a letter, so I figured instead

1 of him rehashing my letter, I would just -- you get right from the
2 horse.

3 MR. KORYZNO: That's acceptable.

4 MS. BOOMS: Okay. From what I understand, that Ecorse
5 Public Library's part of the Wayne County Library system, there's
6 other municipalities that are part of that group, other
7 municipalities are leaving and having their own public library, not
8 being part of the county's system. As more people leave, there's
9 the chance that the system's increased costs will go up, and Ecorse
10 will have to have a bigger share.

11 So the Council has decided they want to withdraw. And
12 that's basically the only action that has taken. That has been
13 taken. They can't actually leave until they get their funding, and
14 new employees in place, and there's many, many things that need to
15 be outlined, whether it's going to be a cooperative, a cooperative
16 effort with another municipality, or if they're going to create
17 their own under ordinance, or via some other option, I suppose.

18 So right now, I've outlined the different options and the
19 actions that need to be taken for the City Administrator, and he is
20 going to, from what I understand, work on it, trying to figure out
21 the best option for the City. But currently, the City can't leave
22 until it has its funding in place, and has new employees in place.
23 Wayne County will not allow them to, what I was told from Wayne
24 County.

1 MR. KORYZNO: So is this an attempt to control the cost
2 for a library at the city level, as opposed to dictating the cost
3 from the county?

4 MS. BOOMS: Yes, it is. Right now, the way it works,
5 Wayne County just sends a bill, and the city pays it. And library
6 services are very important in this city -- well, ~~then~~ ⁱⁿ most cities.
7 But in that Wayne County bill, for example, we pay for corp counsel
8 services. We don't use Wayne County corp counsel, their attorneys.
9 I don't really see how that's part of the library. They have
10 different county costs added on.

11 If more people leave the system and the cost goes up, it's
12 just going to be more expensive for us. So we're hoping with the
13 money that we already have dedicated to it, and maybe whatever else
14 going on with millages and other fees and things, that we'll be able
15 to bring the costs down, and maintain the services. The ultimate is
16 to bring the costs down. And control it.

17 MR. KORYZNO: All right, any questions from the Board?

18 MS. PARKER: Just a couple of comments. I think it would
19 be helpful to find out the impact would be on the City's budget as
20 part of the process. And then secondly, the City of Allen Park just
21 recently took the same steps, to withdraw from the county system and
22 it might be helpful to make contact with Allen Park library
23 director, to kind of talk about the analysis that took place.

24 MS. BOOMS: Right, most recently, I believe, Lincoln Park,
25 River Rouge, and Allen Park, which are all similar. And I know

1 another city attorney, L.C. Williams (phonetic), has been reaching
2 out to our neighboring communities, asking them how do they analyze
3 the situation.

4 MR. KORYZNO: Ms. Parker, do you have any objections to
5 the withdrawal?

6 MS. PARKER: No, I do not, but I think that analysis needs
7 to be brought back to the City Council and to the RTAB.

8 MR. KORYZNO: Okay. All right.

9 MS. BOOMS: I would agree, and I try to strongly encourage
10 that you need to think about not only the financing, but how it's
11 going to be run. Because that control's going to come back to the
12 City, so you have to have a library board that is very strong, and
13 functional. They have to maintain budgets and report to the state,
14 and report to the council.

15 And that's a big difference than what's going on now, and
16 I've tried to stress that, and I'm sure Wayne understands completely
17 the need for that. You can't just withdraw and think everything's
18 going to work out. I mean, we even have to do all the work.

19 MR. O'NEAL: Mr. Chairman, that's basically what I was
20 going to indicate --

21 MR. KORYZNO: For the record?

22 MR. O'NEAL: D. Wayne O'Neal, City Administrator.

23 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

24 MR. O'NEAL: You know, I know that the libraries were part
25 of the Wayne Oakland Library Federation, and the library network, I

1 think, was the -- went beyond that. And why that went by the
2 wayside, I don't know. And I agree with the fact that because the
3 number of libraries within the organization are dwindling, the costs
4 are going to be increased, to spread across there.

5 While I haven't had an opportunity to do an analysis, I
6 would be happy to talk to Karen, over in Allen Park, and take a look *at*
7 what the analysis was to that. I have some librarian friends that
8 work in other libraries, and I will discuss with them their
9 perspectives on these things, to get some neutral things. Because
10 as Cassandra has indicated, when you set up a new library system,
11 they're going to, depending on what act that they're under, there's
12 autonomy, for the library board to have control of the budget, and
13 those types of things.

14 And you have to have your own employees, and I mean, we
15 need to see how that impacts ~~on~~ Ecorse and the overall budget, going
16 forward. It's my understanding it's about a quarter of a mill
17 that's assessed for library services; I don't know how that impacts,
18 if we bring that back and try to do this alone. And I think that
19 needs to have a careful review, and also, I agree with Ms. Parker
20 about looking at the surrounding communities and whether or not the
21 three or four of us can get together and have one librarian, or
22 whatever we need to do. But we need to make sure that, you know, we
23 do economies of scale here. So, again.

24 MR. KORYZNO: So what you're saying is that the council
25 adopted the resolution but has not performed the financial analysis,

1 to determine whether the cost will be more or less than
2 participating in Wayne County?

3 MS. BOOMS: Correct. Really, nothing has been done other
4 than a basic decision that we would like to leave in the near
5 future. And I have given a whole laundry list of things that Wayne
6 needs to do before they can actually leave. Or really, even
7 contemplating setting a date for when they're going to leave.

8 It's quite involved. There is a very basic level, as I've
9 just indicated, we're ready to leave, and start down that path.

10 MR. O'NEAL: Mr. Chairman, again, I'm not going to cast
11 aspersions or whatever, but, this is a big move, and I think it
12 needs to have a lot of review.

13 MR. KORYZNO: Any questions from the board members?

14 MS. PARKER: No.

15 MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you. I'll entertain a
16 motion.

17 MR. BOVITZ: Are we going to -- to table, or, table
18 Resolution 403.14 from the November 10th, 2014 meeting.

19 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Been moved and supported to table
20 Resolution 403.14, any further discussion?

21 MS. BOOMS: Can I ask -- please?

22 MR. KORYZNO: Certainly.

23 MS. BOOMS: Sorry, again, Cassandra Booms, City Attorney's
24 office. While I certainly don't mind if you table it, I just want
25 to make sure the Board is aware that there is going to be further

1 steps that will, the council will have to take, that there will be
2 addressed in the minutes. This motion alone, that the council took,
3 doesn't really have much effect, because with that motion alone,
4 they can't really withdraw from the library system.

5 So, I just want to make sure you understand that there's
6 going to be a lot more coming to the council.

7 MR. KORYZNO: So there are subsequent actions that the
8 City Council must take?

9 MS. BOOMS: Yes, many. So there'll be more for you to
10 review. I just didn't know if you wanted that hanging out there,
11 when there's a lot more coming, but, it could help as a reminder,
12 too.

13 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

14 MR. BOVITZ: Well, we removed the action from the November
15 10th meeting, so, it's just basically it's just no issue. There's,
16 it doesn't matter if we table it or not, it's just removed from the
17 meeting.

18 MR. KORYZNO: Mm-hm. Any further discussion? Seeing
19 none, all in favor of the motion say aye.

20 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

21 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed, same sign. Motion is
22 approved. Item 3, claims and accounts from regular City Council
23 meeting draft minutes of November 25, 2014. Entertain a motion.

24 MR. BOVITZ: Move to accept the drafts and accounts from
25 the November 25th, 2014, meeting.

1 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any further discussion? Seeing
2 none, all in favor of the motion say aye.

3 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

4 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign. The motion is
5 approved. Item 4, termination of Plante Moran contract. Mr. Van de
6 Grift, please summarize this matter for the Board.

7 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Drew Van de Grift, Michigan Department
8 of Treasury. Plante Moran has tendered a letter, communicating its
9 intent to terminate their services, effective December 31st of this
10 year. This letter outlined, you know, a continuing failure of the
11 City to cure the problems that were outlined in their previous
12 letter of grievance, as well as other breaches. The Board will
13 recall that Emergency Manager Parker's order 81 created this
14 contractual arrangement, and that will remain unfulfilled by the
15 early termination of the contract.

16 The City has a great need for these services, particularly
17 considering the recent financial emergency, the continued
18 receivership, and the City's uncertain financial future.

19 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. Mr. O'Neal?

20 MR. O'NEAL: Yes sir, Mr. Koryzno?

21 MR. KORYZNO: Given Plante Moran's desire to leave the
22 employ of the City, what are you plans for replacing that financial
23 necessity?

24 MR. O'NEAL: Right now, according to Mr. Van de Grift, the
25 Emergency Manager Order 81 speaks to the fact that you have a

1 professional controller. I believe that that takes precedence.
2 While that's there, I'm also looking at all options relative to
3 existing employees and combination of contacting other accounting
4 firms, to secure the services of an individual with the
5 qualifications of Mr. McCurley, and also to meet the requirements of
6 Act 81, per order of 81.

7 While this came to us at ten minutes before Wednesday
8 evening. I have been moving forward to see what we can do; I will
9 tell you that I have not made contact with another accounting firm.
10 I wanted to wait for this meeting, to see what transpired out of
11 this. Obviously, I know Popes, and UHY, and all the different
12 accounting firms, and will make contact, and to secure the services
13 of that.

14 While they are going to be gone January first, to secure
15 the services and get it to the council and to the TAB board, may
16 take some special meetings or some special approvals or whatever,
17 but I will move forward. I don't believe it will be difficult to
18 get a firm to bring the proper person in here, I don't believe that
19 to be the fact.

20 These companies work all over the place, they do these,
21 they have their junior employees who are going to be sitting for the
22 CPAs doing all this work, and I'll bet Mr. Bovitz did the same thing
23 somewhere down the line. Working somewhere, so, we'll get somebody
24 on board there.

1 What I would like to do is, the possibility of using some
2 existing personnel, have ~~skills~~ *skill sets*, that can do these things. And
3 help, and have cross training so they can relieve some of the work
4 that may be done from the professional side, ~~but~~ thereby reducing
5 the costs. We're not going to leave any stone unturned, relative to
6 that, and this is a perfect opportunity, I believe, to do that.

7 While we know what the budget was for Plante Moran, we're
8 hoping that we can do this somewhere else. I understand the gravity
9 of the situation, and we will do that. and the Board can be assured
10 that, while we don't have anybody on board, and I haven't made any
11 contact, I believe by the first of the year and prior to that, we'll
12 have a firm that will be able to do that. We'll just have to go
13 through the administerial steps with the RTAB, and the city council.

14 MR. KORYZNO: Who are the city's auditors? Current
15 auditors?

16 MR. O'NEAL: Raymond Robson. And we have a meeting next
17 week for the audit, so.

18 MR. KORYZNO: Any question from the board members for Mr.
19 O'Neal?

20 MS. PARKER: Mr. Chair, I didn't quite hear everything Mr.
21 O'Neal stated, as far as what the plan is at this point in time, but
22 I'd like to state for the record that I'm very concerned that Plante
23 Moran is leaving the end of December. And my concern is with
24 continuity of services, making sure that the internal controls are
25 in place, and I guess I wondered if Mr. O'Neal or anyone from the

1 City made contact with Plante Moran, to find out if they could
2 provide maybe some limited services until a replacement plan is in
3 place.

4 I'm just really concerned, because of the condition the
5 City was in at the time that I came on board as Emergency Manager.

6 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Ms. Parker.

7 MR. KORYZNO: Perhaps you could speak a little louder?

8 MR. O'NEAL: Okay, I'll endeavor to enunciate a little bit
9 more.

10 MR. KORYZNO: Is that better, Ms. Parker?

11 MS. PARKER: Yes, it is.

12 MR. O'NEAL: I did talk with the managing partner from
13 Plante Moran, about their concerns. And they were -- he was quite
14 generous in his comments, relative to referring to the letter that
15 was written in July. And it was a management ~~is~~ decision from Plante
16 Moran to move forward and not be part of this. I did not ask them
17 about continuing services, based on the fact that ~~he~~ ^{he} individual that
18 would be here, no longer is going to be here.

19 So the continuity there, relative to appointing somebody
20 else to be here, from the conversation and the inflection in the
21 individual's voice, it was a corporate decision to move on from
22 Ecorse, and not provide services, and break it off.

23 Now, while he didn't -- I didn't ask, and he didn't offer,
24 the letter that he did send to the city, saying that they want -- or
25 the email, that they would help us through December 31st, and any

1 transition that may come up. So in other words, if we need to call
2 and ask them questions, relative to what was what, and moving
3 forward beyond December 31st, they're professionals, and they would
4 do these things.

5 MS. PARKER: Yeah, because, I guess, it's my
6 understanding, and I'm not as close to the issues as perhaps you
7 are, you know, they are willing to provide some support. It may not
8 be Mr. McCurley, but, the fact that Mr. McCurley has been there and
9 if he's working with someone else, even through Plante Moran, there
10 would be an easier transition for the city.

11 Again, I just look at what was in place at the time that I
12 came on board, and I do not want to see the city regress in that
13 manner.

14 MR. O'NEAL: I totally agree, Ms. Parker.

15 MR. KORYZNO: Any additional questions? Seeing none,
16 thank you, Mr. O'Neal. Item --

17 MS. PARKER: Um --

18 MR. KORYZNO: Ms. Parker?

19 MS. PARKER: Mr. Koryzno?

20 MR. KORYZNO: Yes?

21 MS. PARKER: On one other matter -- it was in the November
22 25th minutes, and I failed to bring it up earlier. If, before you
23 finalize or adjourn the meeting, if we could talk about the HR
24 proposal from Paychex?

25 MR. O'NEAL: Do you want to do that now?

1 MR. KORYZNO: Certainly. What's your question, Ms.
2 Parker?

3 MS. PARKER: Well, I'd like to have Mr. O'Neal maybe
4 explain what Paychex' role will be for the \$25,000? If it's in
5 addition to hiring a part time HR director, or if it's replacement
6 of the HR director?

7 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Ms. Parker. While this is a work
8 in ~~process~~ ^{progress}, Paychex, there was a discussion that went on between the
9 Mayor, Ms. D'Onofrio, and relative to changing or getting some
10 support relative to the concerns of Plante Moran, and the absence of
11 an HR director. Once I got here, I talked with Paychex.

12 The services that they would provide are in addition to
13 services that they are currently providing, relative to the payroll
14 service. These items would be tacked onto the payroll service.
15 They would have -- they would provide onsite people to help go into
16 the office that we have now, to help straighten out what we've got.

17 ^{\$10,000} It would be limited in nature. Now, the \$25,000 includes
18 about ~~10~~ or \$11,000 in services we're already paying for, so the
19 addition is a ~~10~~ ^{\$13,000}, \$14,000 in above what we're currently paying. I
20 have contacts with outside people in the HR area, that I haven't
21 received a call back from, that I talked to prior to my leaving
22 before, about the possibility of doing some consulting work on a
23 part-time basis.

24 This would go hand in glove with that. While we haven't
25 signed a contract with Paychex, again, this is a work in process;

1 I'm hoping that I can get a HR professional on a part time basis, to
2 work with the administerial nature of what Paychex would be doing
3 relative to the items required under HR.

4 I don't have it in front of me, and again, I did indicate
5 to Mr. Van de Grift that we had met with Paychex, and agreed on the
6 items. We talked about W2s, and COBRA forms and all these other
7 things. I don't have them in front of me, but, the work in process
8 is to hopefully be able to provide the HR function at a reduced cost
9 of what we were paying Mr. Aines, and still providing the same level
10 of service, if not more. And again, I would have that coming
11 forward to the City Council -- to the TAB board, in January.

12 But I'd be moving forward, as I am now, as a matter of
13 fact, I made another phone call yesterday, to get -- have this HR
14 person call, and absent of that, I'm going to be contacting
15 surrounding communities for their HR people, because we know, I know
16 that you've got this -- part of that is over with, but, we still
17 need to do consolidation of services for the surrounding
18 communities, and I don't know a city manager around, that wouldn't
19 want to provide services, if they can make a dollar for themselves
20 and save us a dollar. So, that's where I'm going with this, Ms.
21 Parker.

22 MS. PARKER: Okay. If you could maybe just send to Mr.
23 Van de Grift a copy of the agreement, it would be helpful.

24 MR. O'NEAL: I'll do that. I planned on doing that. I
25 just had it reviewed from the City Attorney, on their contract, and

1 again, it's a work in process. The only reason it was brought up
2 before, with Mr. Van de Grift, is the Plante Moran letter, and
3 letting him know that the City of Ecorse is moving forward, with the
4 items that were in that letter, and moving forward to correct those
5 deficiencies.

6 MR. KORYZNO: Any additional questions, Ms. Parker, for
7 Mr. O'Neal?

8 MS. PARKER: No, thank you.

9 MR. KORYZNO: Mr. Bovitz?

10 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Mr. Chair?

11 MR. KORYZNO: Yes, Mr. Van de Grift?

12 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: I just would like to note -- Drew Van
13 de Grift -- that the minutes from the November 25th meeting have
14 only been passed by the Board for claims and accounts, so absent a
15 desire of the Board to review that amendment or that resolution
16 today, it will be reviewed in the January meeting.

17 MR. KORYZNO: Did you hear that, Ms. Parker?

18 MS. PARKER: No, I couldn't hear him; what did he say?

19 MR. KORYZNO: The meeting at which the Paychex issue was
20 approved by council, the RTAB only approved the accounts payable for
21 that meeting, and the rest of the meeting will come before the RTAB
22 board in January.

23 MS. PARKER: Okay, thank you.

24 MR. KORYZNO: You're welcome. Thank you, Mr. O'Neal.

25 Next item is Item B, letter from City Administrator, dated November

1 26th, 2014. Item 1, approval of City Council minutes; these have
2 been addressed in new business. Item 2, approval of budget to
3 actual report. Seeing Mr. McCurley is not here, Mr. Van de Grift,
4 could you summarize this matter for the Board, please?

5 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Certainly. I'm not sure I'll be able
6 to do better than Tim's summary letter himself, but his concerns,
7 again, center around the expenditures for the Department of Public
8 Works, that for the percentage of the fiscal year that has passed,
9 the department is well over budget. I think that's my most
10 remarkable comment, from his report.

11 MR. KORYZNO: All right. Okay, thank you. Recognizing
12 those expenses, Mr. O'Neal, could you provide us with your
13 observations and intentions regarding this issue?

14 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you Mr. Chairman, members of the TAB
15 board. While these expenditures occurred prior to me coming here,
16 I've had discussions with Mr. Lawrence and other members of the
17 staff at my regular staff meetings, and individually, relative to
18 the operations of the City of Ecorse, and maintaining budget
19 constraints and within budget guidelines.

20 While I understand the concerns there are from the TAB
21 board, and from City Council members and what have you, there, we
22 had a storm in August; we've had some issues relative to additional
23 pickups. We've had some issues ~~to~~^{with} grass cuttings, equipment
24 failures and what have you.

1 While, if I was here, and reviewed some of those things, I
2 think I would have agreed to some of the expenditures that would
3 have come forward with a budget adjustment. As we all know that
4 budgets are a work in process, that they are a roadmap and they are
5 subject to change, based on what happens in reality.

6 Some of the items that cause the increases to the budgets
7 I agree 100 percent with. While I think there are some concerns
8 relative to the overtime, I've addressed those issues. I've
9 discussed some things with Mr. Lawrence about how we might be able
10 to reduce the amount of overtime. I'm not sure about the legalities
11 of that, but we're taking a look at these items, and quite frankly,
12 we don't need an individual working 120 hours every two weeks.

13 So there's a staffing issue there. So I'm looking at
14 those types of things. Going forward, with the budget amendments,
15 and going forward for the five year budget. I have a plan to take a
16 look at that, and we're going to address that, and what the DPW will
17 look like; it won't look like that. I need to discuss that with the
18 Mayor and council, as part of that budget amendment and as part of
19 the going forward on goals and objectives.

20 So, that being said, I've addressed those issues; I'm
21 going to continue to address those issues, and our future budgets
22 need to be corrected. To look at that, we look at that, because if
23 someone -- if they're there, they're there. If their budget that
24 needs to be, things that need to be in a budget on a yearly basis,
25 they do. But what I'm wanting to do, and I'm going to try to make

1 copper out of a penny. We're going to squeeze this budget. And so,
2 that's all part of it.

3 I want the Board to understand that I appreciate your
4 concern; again, it goes back to again, what is the City of Ecorse
5 going to look like, going five years and beyond? And we're very
6 cognizant of that, and we'll do that, moving forward.

7 MR. KORYZNO: I think one of the concerns I have is a
8 nonexempt or an exempt employee being eligible for overtime; that's
9 a violation of Federal Labor Standards Act.

10 MR. O'NEAL: Of FLSA. And I've had those discussions.
11 And also, discussed a contract amendment with a contract that was
12 tabled, and to correct that. Where there would be a flat salary and
13 no overtime. So I've addressed that as well.

14 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

15 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you for reminding me.

16 MR. KORYZNO: Any questions from the board members on this
17 topic?

18 MS. PARKER: No, I don't have any.

19 MR. KORYZNO: All right. All right. Entertain a motion.

20 MR. BOVITZ: Move that we accept the budget to actual
21 report, as it's presented.

22 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any further discussion? Seeing
23 none, all in favor of the motion say aye.

24 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

1 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed, same sign. Motion is
2 approved. Item three, approval of employment contract. Mr. O'Neal,
3 could you summarize this matter for the board?

4 MR. O'NEAL: With pleasure. D. Wayne O'Neal, Interim City
5 Administrator.

6 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

7 MR. O'NEAL: Relative to the employment contract. Let me
8 begin by first of all, we reviewed the administrator's budget to see
9 whether or not that budget could absorb a full time position. Right
10 now, this individual, in this position, is a contractual non union,
11 non city employee. Is on a 1099, straightforward. I believe that
12 RTAB approved the existing contract for this employee.

13 A year ago, when I started here, I was the interim
14 manager, and, well, reviewing the office of the administrator, there
15 was me. And there was Ms. D'Onofrio who also worked for the
16 attorney at the time, Ms. Fowlkes. While having done this for more
17 years than I care to say ~~any more~~ ^{anymore}, it is absolutely imperative that
18 the administrator's office have continuity and be able to function
19 efficiently, especially in these tough economic times, and more
20 importantly, while this city's in receivership and beyond.

21 That being said, I reviewed the position itself, and I
22 believe Mr. Strand reviewed the position itself, and what this
23 position should command, relative to the pay scale. That was done,
24 trying to use empirical data, and using experience that I had over
25 the years, and what have you. I would defer, also, this not being

1 your responsibility, Mr. Koryzno, but having been a city
2 administrator, Ms. Parker, for many years, we all understand the
3 importance of this position, relative to good governance.

4 We, that being said, I believe it's critical to this
5 organization that this position be in the budget so that there's
6 continuity between administrators, all right, and also, somebody
7 that's in that office that can perform the ministerial functions,
8 and allow the City Administrator to look at the bigger picture
9 items. Because as you well know, if you take a look at the
10 organizational staff and the City of Ecorse, we're beyond thin.
11 We're transparent.

12 Now, that's from the strict business portion of it. And I
13 will say that the five year budget and the 2014-15 fiscal year
14 budget, can absorb this within current budgetary restraints without
15 using fund balance. Has nothing to do with the budget amendments
16 that you have on there; this stands alone by itself. This position
17 has been incorporated and was incorporated in the five year budget,
18 the original one I did. And it was in there, all right. Within
19 current budgetary constraints.

20 That's from the budgetary standpoint. From a personal,
21 practical position, the individual that would be in this position
22 came in at my request, a year ago, to do those ministerial things
23 that I had, without experience, except for working with Ms. Fowlkes
24 in the other side of that. She has experience there. But the

1 things that she was requested to do, as the assistant to the City
2 Administrator, she had not done those.

3 And I asked her if she would take a leap of faith, and she
4 did. And she's done a yeoman's job. And further, got thrown right
5 into the breach, which I will not expand upon. And which I think
6 the Board knows without me saying. And she's done a wonderful job
7 holding that together. And, while I came back for my second go
8 round, has made my job so much easier. She has learned so much
9 more, since I've left, that it's made my job so much easier.

10 So I go back to part of the things I said before, about
11 the position itself, because let's take the personality out of it.
12 She has demonstrated and shown that while this position is critical
13 to any city administrator, by the fact that me coming back, or
14 anybody coming in here, and which she did for my successor and
15 predecessor. Was able to do those things necessary to move the --
16 keep the City Administrator office moving forward, and quite
17 frankly, she did things that were out of her pay grade, and she did
18 it.

19 Now, let's talk about the position itself, how it ~~x~~^{is}
20 relative to the rest of the organization. The hourly rate, I
21 believe is not only commensurate, for this position, as it relates
22 to the other employees that may be in a like classifications but not
23 in this critical job function. They are -- there's an employee that
24 makes almost as much as this. I don't want to get into
25 personalities or that.

1 So what I'm saying to you, when you take a look at the
2 hourly rate, and what have you, is, it fits the position and it's
3 probably on the low side, and I will say this to this Board -- and
4 it's already been said to the employee. You're probably never going
5 to get a raise. Because that's just a fact of life here.

6 That's all.

7 MR. KORYZNO: I have a question for Ms. Parker. Are you
8 there?

9 MS. PARKER: I'm here, yes.

10 MR. KORYZNO: Yes. Did you institute a pay freeze for
11 city employees during your term as the Emergency Manager?

12 MS. PARKER: I, you know, I believe I did, during the time
13 that I was there. I, I don't, I guess I'm not really sure of how
14 that was done, primarily because I would need to go back and take a
15 look at some of the orders.

16 MR. KORYZNO: Well, perhaps this may be a more relevant
17 question. Did the city employees receive pay increases during your
18 time as the Emergency Manager?

19 MS. PARKER: I don't believe they did.

20 MR. KORYZNO: Okay, and you became the Emergency Manager
21 in what year?

22 MS. PARKER: Oh, gee. I think it was like 2004?

23 MR. KORYZNO: Maybe, I'm thinking maybe 2009. 2009?

24 Thank you, okay.

25 MS. PARKER: Thank you.

1 MR. KORYZNO: All right, so, the city employees have not
2 received a pay increase in roughly five years. Mr. Bovitz, any
3 questions for Mr. O'Neal? Ms. Parker, do you have any questions?

4 MS. PARKER: Well, you know, I do have a couple of
5 questions and comments. If Mr. O'Neal could tell me what the
6 current rate is, and what the proposed rate is, with this change,
7 and it sounds like what you're requesting is that the position be
8 classified as a fulltime position, versus a contract position?

9 MR. O'NEAL: It would be a contractual fulltime position.
10 It would be deemed a city employee, but it'd be a contractual
11 position, at will.

12 MR. KORYZNO: Did you hear that, Ms. Parker?

13 MS. PARKER: And, yes. So it would be fulltime
14 contractual?

15 MR. O'NEAL: That's correct. She'd be --

16 MS. PARKER: And what's the rate again, currently, and
17 what's proposed?

18 MR. O'NEAL: Well, the rate is \$18.00 an hour. The
19 current rate is -- the current rate is ~~\$14.00~~ ^{\$17.00}. But she -- the employee
20 was hired at \$14.00 an hour for, I believe, a different, now I --
21 with all this responsibility. So it's, we're looking at creating a
22 new, a completely new position, relative to what the individual was
23 doing before.

1 While she may have been doing some of those functions, she
2 is now doing additional functions and different, additional
3 responsibilities. And --

4 MS. PARKER: So are you, I guess, if she's doing different
5 responsibilities, it sounds like you want to reclassify the position
6 because of the responsibility, or are you just really looking at
7 fulltime, in addition to reclassification?

8 MR. O'NEAL: Well, yes, Ms. Parker, all of that. I'm, in
9 one fell swoop, I'm looking at creating a position that has no union
10 implications, that is executive in nature, working for the
11 administrator's; I'm trying to think of the word, the terminology,
12 look for, can't be in the union because confidentiality and those
13 types of things. The way she is being, as the position would be
14 used.

15 MS. PARKER: Well, yeah, it's a contract position right
16 now. I guess the other question I have, and this is probably for
17 the Chair. You know, we've asked for the five year budget
18 projection, and secondly, with the two year budget, I believe part
19 of that budget includes the city ~~complement~~ ^{component}. So, in order to make
20 the adjustments, does that require some type of approval by the
21 state treasurer?

22 MR. KORYZNO: Any budget adjustment to your two year
23 budget would require approval of the state treasurer. And I share
24 your concerns. While I'm confident Ms. D'Onofrio's work has been
25 admirable, I'm uncomfortable with approving this request until we

1 see the five year plan. I'm also concerned that long term city
2 employees have had wages frozen, and now we're hiring a full time
3 employee.

4 MS. PARKER: And I share the concern; I certainly think
5 the person that is in the position has done a great job for the
6 City, and this is not any reflection on what she has done. I think
7 the key here is really trying to look at it in a more comprehensive
8 manner, so that you can address other needs related to employees, as
9 well as in this particular position.

10 MR. KORYZNO: I agree. Mr. Bovitz, any comment? Any
11 further discussion? Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion.

12 MR. BOVITZ: What's the proposal, is to --

13 MR. KORYZNO: Entertain a motion to approve, deny or table
14 the employment contract as submitted.

15 MR. BOVITZ: I would move to table. To table the contract
16 at this time.

17 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any further discussion, Ms.
18 Parker?

19 MS. PARKER: No, I don't have any discussion.

20 MR. KORYZNO: All right. Mr. Bovitz, can I suggest an
21 amendment to that? That we table it until such time that the five
22 year plan is submitted to the RTAB board?

23 MR. BOVITZ: I'll accept that as an amendment.

24 MR. KORYZNO: And I'll support it. Any further
25 discussion? Seeing none, all in favor of the motion say aye.

1 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

2 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed, same sign. The motion is
3 approved. Item four, approval of checks released, this is
4 information only, therefore no board action is required.

5 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Forgive me.

6 MR. KORYZNO: Next item's public comment. I failed to
7 mention at the beginning of the meeting that if you don't sign up
8 for the public comment, that you will not be recognized. Having
9 said that, if anyone wants to sign up now to speak at public
10 comment, I'll accept it, given my faux pas.

11 PUBLIC COMMENTER: My name is on there.

12 MR. KORYZNO: Okay, very good, so, Mr. Van de Grift, once
13 he gets the digital -- thank you, Councilmember Elem; just a
14 reminder that per the Board rules, you'll have two minutes to speak,
15 and Mr. Van de Grift --

16 MR. ELEM: Councilmember Nathaniel Elem. I'm a little bit
17 confused on the evaluation letter that was sent to the Governor.
18 And today, you read off some amendments to that particular letter,
19 and I think you mentioned something about a five year grant, and
20 also, the reason, why haven't we received that letter? So we can go
21 over it, because being 80 years of age, it's kind of hard for me to
22 understand some of the things they said up here. And we need to
23 have a copy of it, if any way possible.

Plante

1 Then secondly, you talked about Moran, ~~Frank~~ Moran. And
2 Ms. Parker, did I understand you to say that that contract was to
3 last until June, 2015?

4 MS. PARKER: That's correct.

5 MR. ELEM: Well, why, he has the option to leave before
6 that particular time, and we don't have anybody in place to replace
7 him?

8 MS. PARKER: Well, I haven't reviewed the contract, but I
9 think that Plante Moran may be willing to continue to help, by
10 replacing Mr. McCurley with someone else. If the City chose to make
11 the request. It's my understanding that there's a belief that the
12 City doesn't want them there any longer.

13 MR. ELEM: Well, you took that assumption. Anyway, it was
14 stated that he made a statement that he made his decision on what
15 happened in the last six months, and that, remember some of that
16 letter that he wrote to council was about a City Administrator, and
17 also about a human resource. And we have made steps in both those
18 directions. I don't know what else the other circumstances are.
19 But, that seemed to be a little bit confusing to me.

20 Then the other part of this thing is that --

21 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: That's two minutes.

22 MR. ELEM: Seemingly nothing --

23 MR. KORYZNO: Time's up, councilmember.

24 MR. ELEM: Anything is related on to the five year budget.

25 Thank you.

1 MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you. Next speaker. Good
2 morning.

3 MS. OLIVER Good morning. Marilyn Oliver, concerned city
4 resident. I just wanted to state that, without knowing the status
5 of MML's search for a permanent City Administrator, I'd just like to
6 go on record to say that I believe, for continuity, that if it is at
7 all possible, that Mr. O'Neal be extended for no less than one year,
8 and the search is either suspended or delayed until that time,
9 because with all the financial things that are coming up in the
10 City, and within the three weeks that Mr. O'Neal has been here, I'm
11 very impressed with the report that he has rendered here today.

12 And I'm just concerned that if we were to bring someone
13 else in, in a short time early next year, that the continuity of
14 what's going on here, that it would be difficult for them to jump
15 in. As well as, I think there's an election year next year, as
16 well, so before that happens, if we could be on stable ground, and
17 if he is available and would like to keep the job, I think, from a
18 city business perspective, that we need him for at least one year.
19 And I just want to go on the record to say that.
20 Thank you.

21 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you, Ms. Oliver.

22 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: That concludes public comment.

23 MR. KORYZNO: Okay. D. Wayne O'Neal?

24 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Mr. Koryzno and members of the
25 Board. I just wanted to update. At the last TAB board meeting,

~~was~~ *were*
1 there ~~was~~ some comments that were made relative that the TAB board
2 wanted to see. And one was this strategic plan, and DFM, on page
3 four, I believe, that deals with Envision Ecorse, and we're moving
4 forward with that, as I indicated partly in some of my previous
5 comments.

6 The pension multiplier has been put in place with MERS.
7 Again, the goals and objectives, we're going to do that. The mid-
8 year budget amendment that you talked about, would not use a fund
9 balance. We're doing that without use of fund balance. The taser
10 training, we're in the process of having a person trained to do the
11 taser training and we're moving forward to have all that taser
12 training taking place.

13 I'm having DTE -- I contacted DTE about the streetlights,
14 so we can take a look at that and possibly doing a analysis of the
15 streetlights. We've got in place the -- we've got proper billing
16 for what we've got, and also to take a look at our efficiencies that
17 we can do with reference to the change out on lights, that will pay
18 for themselves and reduce the cost. And so we're moving forward
19 with that, as well.

20 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you, Mr. O'Neal. That ends public
21 comment, board comments, Mr. Bovitz?

22 MR. BOVITZ: I just want to address Councilman Elem's
23 concern about the letter. It hasn't formally been received by the
24 Governor's office, is my understanding. This is our draft copy

1 coming back to us, before we can submit it officially, so we have
2 nothing to present to the city officially, is that --

3 MR. KORYZNO: That's correct; the interim period between
4 the last meeting and this meeting, it's being -- it was being
5 reviewed by Treasury officials. And so it was never sent to the
6 Governor. It has been brought back today, and then after this
7 meeting, it will be sent to the Governor and the city officials will
8 receive a copy of the evaluation, and the transmittal letter. So I
9 hope that clarifies that for you, councilmember. Ms. Parker, do you
10 have any comments?

11 MS. PARKER: I'd just like to wish everyone a happy
12 holiday, and thank everyone for being patient working with me today.

13 MR. KORYZNO: You're welcome. I think we all share that
14 wish for the holidays. Seeing no further business, I'll entertain a
15 motion.

16 MR. BOVITZ: Motion to adjourn.

17 MR. KORYZNO: Support. All in favor of the motion say
18 aye.

19 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

20 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Motion is approved, the Ecorse
21 Receivership Transition Advisory Board meeting ends at 10:11.

22

23 -Proceedings conclude-

24

25