

Approved 5-12-15

City of Ecorse
Receivership Transition Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

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

RTAB MEMBERS PRESENT:

ROBERT BOVITZ

EDWARD KORYZNO

JOYCE PARKER

Reported by:

Amy Shankleton-Novess (CER 0838)
Modern Court Reporting & Video, LLC
SCAO FIRM NO. 08228
101-A North Lewis Street
Saline, Michigan 48176
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Called to order at 9:00 a.m.

MR. KORYZNO: All right, good morning, it's 9 a.m., and I'll call the City of Ecorse Receivership Transition Advisory Board meeting to order. Mr. Van de Grift, roll call, please?

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Robert Bovitz?

MR. BOVITZ: Here.

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Edward Koryzno?

MR. KORYZNO: Here.

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Joyce Parker?

MS. PARKER: Here.

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: All present.

MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. Next item is approval of agenda.

MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

MS. PARKER: Support.

MR. KORYZNO: Moved and supported to approve the agenda; any comments?

(No response.)

All right, all in favor of the motion say aye.

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed, same sign.

(No response.)

The agenda is approved, and also a reminder to the public that if you wish to speak at public comment, that it will be

1 necessary for you to sign the sheet at the podium, otherwise, you
2 will not be recognized.

3 Next item is approval of RTAB minutes of the March
4 10, 2015 meeting with noted clarifications.

5 MR. BOVITZ: Move to accept the March 10th RTAB
6 minutes, with the noted clarifications.

7 MS. PARKER: Support.

8 MR. KORYZNO: Moved and supported to approve the
9 minutes; any corrections?

10 (No response.)

11 Comments?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
14 motion say aye.

15 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

16 MS. PARKER: Aye.

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

18 (No response.)

19 The RTAB minutes are approved.

20 Old business:

21 Item A, five year budget. Mr. O'Neal, could you
22 inform the Board when the five year budget will be submitted to
23 council, and then submitted to the RTAB?

24 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Mr. Koryzno and members of
25 the TAB board. I know that over the last couple of months, we've

1 talked about the five year budget and doing the five year budget.
2 I had a conversation with Mr. Byrne and Mr. ~~Klein~~^{Cline} from your office,
3 I believe it was three or four weeks ago. And we talked about the
4 five year budget. Indicated the information that was coming in and
5 work that I was doing with other communities about decreasing the
6 expenses for both of us, and increasing revenues for some others.

7 They had indicated they didn't have a problem if the
8 five year budget wasn't done until May or June; I don't know if
9 they got to you folks or not, but that's what I -- that was the
10 gist of the conversation. So I'm hoping to have the new controller
11 on board, there's some things I want to discuss with that
12 individual relative to the five year budget.

13 On one ground, I'm happy we didn't do the five year
14 budget, because as you know, because as you know, the disaster with
15 our revenues and our residential is down 27 percent, which is five
16 and a half million dollars. Had we completed a five year budget,
17 we'd be off two and a half million dollars.

18 Also, we're looking at some ways of saving some
19 money, both in terms of working with River Rouge and with the
20 library, and also with the Public Safety, I think that you are
21 already aware of. So we're finalizing those types of things, and I
22 want to make sure that in the direction we're heading, is the right
23 direction.

24 I'm hoping to have a plan for this Board to move
25 Ecourse out of receivership at the end of this -- at the end of

1 those five years. If we can do some things with other communities;
2 I know Drew and I have discussed this at length, and Drew has
3 indicated to me before, and different areas that this board was
4 looking for a plan. Well I plan on putting the plan together, by
5 and to my mayor and my council. Was that we move Ecorse out of
6 receivership.

7 MR. KORYZNO: So we can look forward to a five year
8 budget no later than June?

9 MR. O'NEAL: Yes.

10 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

11 MR. O'NEAL: I mean, one way or another, I will have
12 it. And I'm not happy with that five and a half million dollars,
13 because that really throws me off. I had planned to move some
14 other things, and that just is -- it's just a killer. That's just
15 a killer. So, that being said, again, it, you know that there was
16 a five year budget that was submitted, Mr. Strand had done some
17 things that you denied in that five year budget.

18 I've looked at that; I can go in and change numbers
19 and submit you a five year budget. I want to be able to stand here
20 before you and talk to you about why and how this is a good budget,
21 and I think that's what you want, so let's, you know, let's do
22 that. And when we get towards the end, you've got some items on
23 the board comment, I would like to speak to those at that time, if
24 I may. You say if there -- until all your information is received,
25 I'd like to speak to those at that time, if that's okay.

1 MR. KORYZNO: Any questions for Mr. O'Neal from the
2 Board?

3 MS. PARKER: Just a couple of questions.

4 MR. KORYZNO: Go ahead, Ms. Parker.

5 MS. PARKER: Recognizing that the five year budget
6 really is a plan, that can be adjusted from year to year, based on
7 what the need is. But seeing all of that, with the budget for '15-
8 '16, and reduction in taxable values for property, have you
9 factored that into the budget for next year?

10 MR. O'NEAL: Yes. That's the -- the '15-'16 budget
11 has been approved by the city council; you'll get that in your next
12 communication. That has been approved. It has a positive fund
13 balance, from money put in there. I will note that last year, Ms.
14 Parker, you had indicated, about doing -- we talked about some mid-
15 year budget adjustments, and I'm going back to the first time.

16 And you talked about when you -- when you look at
17 your mid-year budget adjustments, you want to look at possible
18 increases in revenue and so forth, that I will note in the -- last
19 year there was 1.68 million dollars returned to fund balance for
20 the '13-'14 fiscal year. I knew that there would be about ~~\$550,~~ ^{\$550,000}
21 \$600,000. Of course, a million \$50,000, we know there that came
22 from.

23 But I knew that there was additional revenues that
24 Tim McCurley and I had identified, that was going to increase that.
25 Going forward, I knew that this '15-'16 budget would be fine, based

1 on the information I had last April. I knew that would be fine,
2 not knowing that I was going to have that decrease in the SEV, that
3 drastic decrease. That budget that you will be -- that was
4 approved by the council -- it returns \$31,620, something like that,
5 to fund balance. And that's taking into effect that decrease, and
6 those revenues ~~loss~~^{losses}. Also some other special assessments and
7 things like that. That you'll get.

8 MS. PARKER: So the revenue loss that you're
9 referring to is the amount estimated over five years, or is that
10 all in one year?

11 MR. O'NEAL: That's one year.

12 MS. PARKER: Just one year?

13 MR. O'NEAL: That was the 27 percent represented
14 about \$550,000, and we don't know what's going to happen with
15 personal property. We're assuming that we're going to be made
16 whole on the personal property, that's the way the budget was put
17 together. So.

18 MR. KORYZNO: Unless there's the loss of the million
19 dollars from the settlement with the Steel --

20 MR. O'NEAL: Yeah, that goes away, so --

21 MS. PARKER: Yeah, that's going to go away.

22 MR. O'NEAL: Yeah, that's all been taken into effect
23 for '15-'16, and so I want to be very cautious. And I agree, too,
24 Ms. Parker, that budgets are a plan, it's a living, breathing
25 document that changes and it changes. Well, as you can see, that

1 due to amendment, your budget is impossible because we're not
2 supposed to do that, and we have those amendments in there, and
3 going forward, I want to have a budget that's in place that really
4 doesn't have to have amendments.

5 I mean, I don't know of anybody that's ever had a
6 budget that hasn't been amended, but, I want to try to stay away
7 from that as best I can. And again, I know there's some things
8 that my predecessor, my successor and my predecessor, had put into
9 the five year budget some things that you denied or didn't want.
10 Well, I -- I'm trying to make sure that we've got that as good as
11 it could possibly be.

12 And I also sent the '15-'16 budget to --

13 MR. KORYZNO: Cary Vaughn.

14 MR. O'NEAL: I sent that to him; I haven't heard
15 back from him, but I sent it to him before it was adopted, to get
16 any pearls. And I haven't heard back from him, so, again, I'm
17 trying to use everybody I can.

18 MS. PARKER: Thank you.

19 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. Next item is a report from
20 UHY. During January, the Board approved the hiring of UHY and
21 their contract. And at that time, we had requested a report from
22 the city administrator regarding the performance of UHY, and so,
23 Mr. O'Neal, could you please report on how UHY is working out? As
24 I recall, we had concerns that Plante Moran was full time, and UHY
25 was part time?

1 MR. O'NEAL: That's correct. I'm going to play tag
2 team with Mr. Pepperman, if that's okay with the Board?

3 MR. KORYZNO: Certainly.

4 MR. O'NEAL: I will tell you that, at the time, when
5 we hired UHY, we had gotten several names from Randy Byrne, of
6 people to call. And I called those people twice. Never got a
7 phone call back except for one person out of Lansing, that
8 declined. Said we'd like to do it, but we're not set up for that
9 at this time.

10 ~~Ed Plowicki~~ ^{Plawicki} That being said, the mayor set up the meeting with
11 Ed Plowicki, and I attended that meeting, and they had the services
12 of UHY, and knowing full well that we needed to get somebody in
13 here right away because of the importance of the controller
14 position. That being said, we hired UHY to come in, and to start
15 off on a -- to do it as part time.

16 As you know, it was a learning curve. So at the
17 onset, there's going to be more hours. That took place. Mr.
18 Pepperman came in -- Mr. Pepperman doesn't have a lot of municipal
19 experience, but he was able to come in and do the job. We're happy
20 with some of the things that he's done, and there's some things
21 that we need to move forward on, and have a person with more
22 experience in municipal accounting.

23 That said, and he'll talk about the status of what
24 he's doing himself, as well. That said, we want to transition over
25 into a full time controller position. We think that we get the

1 better bang for our buck to have somebody here on full time. And
2 we can save ~~\$40~~^{\$40,000} or \$50,000 a year. So, that said, I now turn it
3 over to Mr. Pepperman. If you have any more questions for me
4 that's fine, but, then let him talk to you about some things.

5 MR. PEPPERMAN: Good morning, members of the board.

6 MR. KORYZNO: Good morning.

7 MR. PEPPERMAN: As Mr. O'Neal has said, there's been
8 a transition period. There was a bit of time to get up to speed; I
9 am now down to between two and three days a week, depending on the
10 need out here in Ecorse. The budget process was very interesting,
11 particularly challenging was the drop in revenue in trying to
12 balance a budget.

13 That's true whether it's a municipal environment or
14 a commercial environment. So Mr. O'Neal and I worked very hard to
15 present a balanced budget to the council, which you will be seeing
16 shortly. As far as day-to-day operations go, we seem to be moving
17 along very well, and ^{are} blessed with a very great staff in Marcia
18 Cotten, who happens to be in the audience today. And Lynn
19 Beaubien, who ~~handled~~^{handles} payables and day-to-day operations. So we
20 are closed through February; we're in the process of closing March
21 right now and should have numbers either this week or next week at
22 the latest.

23 As to a replacement for myself, we interviewed this
24 individual, Tim ~~Sedowski~~^{Sadowski}, seemed to be very well qualified. I
25 think his -- one of the strengths he has, well in advance of me, is

1 his ability to write grants. I was very impressed with the amount
2 of grants he had written and the size of the communities he had
3 been in; \$2 million dollar budget, and writing million dollar
4 grants, and winning grants.

5 So I think it would be an excellent choice for
6 replacement, and as soon as you could possibly put him in place
7 here, I think it would be an advantage to the city and to the
8 state. Not only in quality of work, and I can downplay where I am
9 -- but also in you know, he'd be here full time with me being part
10 time, so it'd be a savings to the city and to the state. I'd
11 entertain any questions from the Board.

12 MR. KORYZNO: Not right now, but I have a question
13 for Mr. O'Neal. Can you give us examples of why this relationship
14 with UHY has not worked out and you want to move towards a full
15 time finance director?

16 MR. O'NEAL: I wouldn't say it -- why it hasn't
17 worked out. Again, Mr. Koryzno, I would indicate that I got here
18 on November the 18th, and I think the week after I was here, a
19 letter came from Plante Moran, quitting us. And they gave us their
20 30-day deadline. So we did -- I did what I could to get somebody
21 in here, on at least a stopgap point.

22 We didn't have much choice, so UHY was there, I know
23 Mr. ~~Plowicki~~ *Plawewski* had worked with Joyce relative to some grants and some
24 things like that. We had to -- a lot of communication both by and
25 to the state, with your office and what have you, and I thought,

1 well, the mayor had brought them in to talk to us, and I thought,
2 well, why not? Why not? He's got all this experience and what
3 have you, so, and we needed somebody right away.

4 And again, I had called those individuals and only
5 one person called back and couldn't do it. Now, whether or not
6 they were working for you somewhere else I don't know, but they
7 obviously didn't have any interest in Ecorse. So, now that we
8 have, we had UHY come on, they did a good job with what we wanted
9 them to do.

10 I believe that it's more important that we have an
11 individual that has a little more municipal experience than Mr.
12 Pepperman. Again, Mr. Pepperman is very helpful in what he did; I
13 think we got our money's worth. But I think moving forward, I
14 believe it's best interests of Ecorse and this organization to have
15 a full time controller and save 50,000 bucks. We need the money.

16 And I can get somebody that's full time, that's full
17 time, and can take up some of the slack, and to help me and to be
18 part of our key management team, along with Laura and myself. And
19 the other department heads that we have here in place. And that's
20 all part of it.

21 MR. KORYZNO: Is Mr. Pepperman a CPA? Are you a
22 Certified Public Accountant?

23 MR. PEPPERMAN: No sir, I'm not.

24 MR. KORYZNO: You have an accounting degree?

25 MR. PEPPERMAN: Yes, sir.

1 MR. KORYZNO: Okay.

2 MR. PEPPERMAN: I have almost 40 years' experience;
3 30 of it as a controller or CFO.

4 MR. KORYZNO: All right. Any questions for Mr.
5 O'Neal from the Board?

6 MS. PARKER: Yes.

7 I guess I'd like to get a better sense of the
8 advertisement process for the controller position, and what the
9 requirements are, based on going out -- I'm assuming you went out
10 and advertised?

11 *paste* MR. O'NEAL: Yeah, what we did is I had Laura cut
12 and ~~past~~ the advertisement for Flint. And we basically modified
13 the one for Flint and we put it on the Michigan Municipal website,
14 as if we -- that we would for any city manager department head
15 position. And had it on there for, I don't know, two or three
16 weeks, a month. I can't remember how long we had it on there, but
17 we had it on there like we normally do, and it had the deadline for
18 applications, and once that application deadline came and went, we
19 did our interviews.

20 We had an internal candidate as well as one outside
21 candidate, and as I've indicated to other members on this board,
22 that it's very difficult, in a distressed city, to get quality
23 people. Or even get people to advertise -- to apply.

24 MS. PARKER: So did you receive just two -- two
25 resumes?

1 MR. O'NEAL: Just two applications. Two resumes.

2 MS. PARKER: And what were the requirements for the
3 position?

4 MR. O'NEAL: I believe --

5 MS. PARKER: Qualifications?

6 MR. O'NEAL: I believe a Master's degree, and at
7 least five years of municipal -- I don't know how we termed it, but
8 at least five years municipal. It was a very high standard.

9 MR. KORYZNO: A financial requirement?

10 MR. O'NEAL: Well, yes.

11 MR. KORYZNO: A CPA, accounting?

12 MR. O'NEAL: A Master's degree, CPA, or equal.

13 MR. KORYZNO: Experience in a similar sized city?

14 MR. O'NEAL: At least five years' experience.

15 MR. KORYZNO: In a similar size city?

16 MR. O'NEAL: In a similar size city or five years'
17 experience at a departmental level. Not necessarily this size
18 city. Because the way I look at things, I've been a city manager
19 of cities population 2,000. I've been a city administrator in a
20 county of 640 square miles. It's zeroes; you still have to do the
21 same functions. And if you've done the same functions, both in
22 terms of audit and preparation, budget preparation. You run the --
23 you -- unified chart of accounts, you have to do what the -- if
24 you've done those things, you've done them.

25 I mean, I've been in a city of 20,000 population

1 where I was a clerk, the personnel director, the city manager, by
2 charter. All these things, so, once you've performed those
3 functions, if you have that level of experience. And I think you
4 know as well as I do, Mr. Koryzno, you go to Fenton and some of the
5 smaller towns on the west coast, and you start somewhere, and you
6 move your way up.

7 Well, if you work in several small communities, and
8 you have a varied experience, that's wonderful. I mean, I started
9 as a code enforcement agent under the CETA program. So you move
10 through. I also worked for the City of Southfield, 65,000
11 population.

12 MS. PARKER: So as part of the requirements, I just
13 want to get back to the requirements.

14 MR. O'NEAL: Yes, the requirements were that you
15 have to have at least five years' experience.

16 MS. PARKER: Okay, so you required a degree. Was
17 the degree in accounting, or any related field? I'm trying to get
18 a sense of -- or could you just email it to us?

19 MR. O'NEAL: Yeah, I can do that.

20 MS. PARKER: And we can take a look at it?

21 MR. O'NEAL: I can do that, but yeah, the --
22 whatever was on the -- Flint used to, isn't that right, Flint?

23 MS. D'ONOFRIO: They're getting ^{it} in their packet.

24 MR. O'NEAL: Oh, you're getting a new packet. It's
25 coming in your packet. That -- all that is coming in your packet,

1 the resume and the job advertisement, all that stuff is coming in
2 your packet. I would have had that for this time, I wanted it on
3 this agenda, but because of the interview and the council didn't
4 approve the contract until last Tuesday. Would have been great to
5 have been able to save several thousands of dollars, but that's
6 another story.

7 MR. KORYZNO: Any other questions from the Board for
8 Mr. O'Neal on this agenda item?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you.

11 MR. KORYZNO: Next item is the checks release
12 report. The Board had also requested a report of all unapproved
13 checks that were issued. Controller Pepperman, were there any
14 unapproved expenditures during the past month?

15 MR. PEPPERMAN: None that I am aware of. I didn't
16 see any unapproved expenditures. I am holding checks pending your
17 approval, as a board, so I have some vendors that are very
18 anxiously awaiting your approval. I've explained to them the
19 process, that it's not a typical 30 days; sometimes, depending on
20 when a bill gets submitted, it could be 45 to 60. They've been
21 very understanding of the process, so we're very pleased that our
22 vendors are standing by us as we work through this activity.

23 MR. KORYZNO: All right, any questions for Mr.
24 Pepperman?

25 (No response.)

1 Thank you.

2 Next item is Resolution 23.15, snow removal
3 ordinance. The approval of this ordinance was tabled last month
4 because the city had not submitted the proper documentation. Mr.
5 Van de Grift, has the city submitted that documentation?

6 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Yes, the entire ordinance was
7 submitted; it was drafted ~~an~~ ^{and} approved by the city attorney, and was
8 approved by the council, before.

9 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. I'll entertain a motion,
10 then, to remove Resolution 23.15, the snow removal ordinance, from
11 the table.

12 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

13 MS. PARKER: Support.

14 MR. KORYZNO: Been moved and supported to move the
15 item from the table; any discussion?

16 MS. PARKER: Yes, just a question. In reference to
17 the ordinance, is the ordinance being amended, or is this a new
18 ordinance?

19 MS. BOOMS: I can speak to that. Cassandra Booms
20 from the City Attorney's office. It's a new ordinance. The city
21 of Ecorse has narrow streets, one way streets, some places with no
22 off street parking. And, we decided it was actually time to
23 develop an ordinance, a snow emergency ordinance, that many
24 communities downriver have one who didn't have one. So it's
25 actually new; it's not an amendment.

1 MS. PARKER: All right, thank you.

2 MR. KORYZNO: Any further discussion? All in favor
3 of the motion to remove the item from the table say aye.

4 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

5 MS. PARKER: Aye.

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

7 (No response.)

8 MR. KORYZNO: The item is removed from the table.
9 Entertain a motion to approve Resolution 23.15.

10 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

11 MS. PARKER: Support.

12 MR. KORYZNO: Supported to approve Resolution 23.15;
13 further discussion?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
16 motion say aye.

17 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

18 MS. PARKER: Aye.

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

20 (No response.)

21 MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved. Item D,
22 Resolution 24.15, boat ramp contract. The approval of this
23 contract was also tabled last month because the city had not
24 submitted the proper documentation. Mr. Van de Grift, can you
25 provide an update?

1 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Yes. The contract was submitted;
2 this contract is for some \$6,304, for operation of the Ecorse boat
3 ramp. All the proper disclosures were submitted for this contract.

4 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. Entertain a motion to
5 remove from the table.

6 MS. PARKER: So moved.

7 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

8 MR. KORYZNO: Been moved and supported to remove
9 Resolution 24.15 from the table; discussion?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
12 motion say aye.

13 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

14 MS. PARKER: Aye.

15 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

16 (No response.)

17 MR. KORYZNO: The item is removed from the table.
18 Entertain a motion to approve Resolution 24.15.

19 MS. PARKER: So moved.

20 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

21 MR. KORYZNO: Moved and supported to approve the
22 resolution; further discussion?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
25 motion say aye.

1 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

2 MS. PARKER: Aye.

3 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

4 (No response.)

5 MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 24.15 is approved. Item
6 E, Resolution 39.15, animal control contract. Mr. Van de Grift,
7 this item is also tabled. Can you provide an update?

8 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Yes, the Board will recall, this
9 was a consolidation effort initiated last year with River Rouge.
10 It costs \$15,000 a year to the city, though it is projected to save
11 the city more money than that, as it did last year. All the proper
12 disclosures were submitted, and the action was approved by the city
13 attorney.

14 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. I'll entertain a motion to
15 remove Resolution 39.15 from the table.

16 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

17 MS. PARKER: Support.

18 MR. KORYZNO: Moved and supported to remove from the
19 table; further discussion?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
22 motion say aye.

23 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

24 MS. PARKER: Aye.

25 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

1 (No response.)

2 MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved. I'll
3 entertain a motion to approve Resolution 39.15.

4 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

5 MS. PARKER: Support.

6 MR. KORYZNO: Moved and supported to approve
7 Resolution 39.15, further discussion?

8 (No response.)

9 MR. BOVITZ: The minutes of November 14th of '13, it
10 says that they were attached as a -- and highlighted as that, this
11 was already resolved. What was the reason for that?

12 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: I'm sorry?

13 MR. BOVITZ: In our packet, Attachment Four, the
14 last page is an excerpt from the minutes of November 14th of 2013.
15 At that point, it was resolved under Resolution 285.13, that the
16 City of Ecorse agreed to one year -- was that just for reference,
17 background reference?

18 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Yeah, I think that that was
19 included to show that this is the renewal of a contract and not a
20 new contract.

21 MR. BOVITZ: Okay. So it's just a -- the \$15,000
22 was previously spent in the prior year?

23 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: That's my understanding.

24 MR. BOVITZ: Okay.

25 MR. KORYZNO: Any further discussion?

1 (No response.)

2 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
3 motion to approve Resolution 39.15, say aye.

4 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

5 MS. PARKER: Aye.

6 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

7 (No response.)

8 MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved. Item F,
9 Resolution 28.15, city treasury employee. Mr. Van de Grift, could
10 you please summarize this item for the Board?

11 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Previously, this Board had
12 disapproved a city council resolution to hire this employee because
13 only the city administrator can select new hires. Now, Mr. O'Neal
14 has selected Ms. Major, who I believe is in attendance this
15 morning, and the appropriate disclosures have been made; the form
16 has been submitted and the city attorney has approved of the
17 contract. So now it is proper for RTAB review.

18 MR. KORYZNO: Entertain a motion.

19 MS. PARKER: I would move for the approval of
20 Resolution 28.15.

21 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

22 MR. KORYZNO: Been moved and supported to approve
23 Resolution 28.15; discussion?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the

1 motion say aye.

2 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

3 MS. PARKER: Aye.

4 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

5 (No response.)

6 MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 28.15 is approved.

7 MS. BOOMS: I'm sorry, but my agenda says 28.18.

8 MR. O'NEAL: That's wrong.

9 MS. BOOMS: It's wrong? Okay. Thank you.

10 MR. KORYZNO: All right, we'll move onto new

11 business. Item A, approval of resolutions and ordinances for city

12 council meetings. Resolutions from regular city council meeting of

13 February 17, 2015. Entertain a motion.

14 MS. PARKER: So moved.

15 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

16 MR. KORYZNO: Been moved and supported to approve

17 resolutions from ^{the} February 17, 2015 city council meeting.

18 Discussion?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. KORYZNO: All in favor of the motion say aye.

21 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

22 MS. PARKER: Aye.

23 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

24 (No response.)

25 MR. KORYZNO: The resolutions from the February 17,

1 2015 city council meeting are approved. Item two, resolutions from
2 regular city council meeting of March 3rd, 2015. I'll entertain a
3 motion to approve the resolutions from the March 3rd, 2015 city
4 council meeting, with the exceptions of Resolutions 59.15, 61.15,
5 and 62.15.

6 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

7 MS. PARKER: Support.

8 MR. KORYZNO: Been moved and supported; further
9 discussion?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
12 motion say aye.

13 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

14 MS. PARKER: Aye.

15 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. All opposed same sign.

16 (No response.)

17 MR. KORYZNO: Resolutions from the March 3rd meeting
18 are approved with the exception of 59.15, 61.15, and 62.15.

19 Street lighting agreement with the DTE, Resolution
20 59.15. Mr. Van de Grift, has the city properly submitted the
21 documentation for this contract?

22 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: They have, sir. I'll note that
23 the contract has been approved by the city attorney. The cost to
24 convert all the LEDs, or all the lights to LEDs in the city, is
25 \$359,433, however, the city did receive a grant for \$350,000. I

1 think the grant will be addressed later at this meeting. For a sum
2 out of pocket cost of \$9,433.

3 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. I'll entertain a motion.

4 MR. BOVITZ: Support. Or, moved to approve
5 Resolution 59.15, DTE street lighting agreement.

6 MS. PARKER: Support.

7 MR. KORYZNO: Been moved and supported; further
8 discussion?

9 MR. BOVITZ: It's of interest in the letter from
10 DTE, says the payback is 3.7 years, but that was just in the annual
11 operating savings on the energy bill, and that's not including the
12 grant, so, really, savings are instant.

13 MS. PARKER: Right.

14 MR. BOVITZ: So there is no payback, it's paid back.

15 MR. KORYZNO: Any further discussion? Seeing none,
16 then all in favor of approving 59.15, say aye.

17 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

18 MS. PARKER: Aye.

19 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

20 (No response.)

21 ~~FDCBT~~ ^{FDCVT} MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved. Item B, the
22 FDCBT grant award, Resolution 61.15. Mr. Van de Grift, can you
23 provide background on this?

24 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Sure, this is the funding source
25 for the LED, the Financially Distressed Cities, Villages and

1 Townships grant, for \$350,000. The city applied for and received
2 this from Treasury, for the \$350,000. All proper submissions were
3 made, and of course the counter party is the Department of
4 Treasury.

5 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. I'll entertain a motion.

6 MS. PARKER: So moved.

7 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

8 MR. KORYZNO: Been moved and supported to approve
9 Resolution 61.15; discussion?

10 MR. BOVITZ: Are there any stipulations where the
11 city has to perform with strings attached, that somehow the grant
12 wouldn't go through?

13 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Mr. Koryzno, members of the
14 board. We have to notify the state as soon as we leave here,
15 because we have until the 31st to make sure that we accept the
16 grant. And DTE wants to know as soon as possible; they want to
17 finish this by September. That's the only string, that's all there
18 is.

19 MS. BOOMS: What's the reporting requirement for the
20 grant?

21 MR. O'NEAL: I'm sorry?

22 MS. BOOMS: What's the reporting requirements?

23 MR. O'NEAL: Oh, there's reporting requirements, and
24 again, what we're doing, that the total cost, the total cost of the
25 project was \$480,000. So about the total amount of the grant was

~~\$480~~ ^{\$480,000}. So we got \$350,000 from the distressed city grant, and the remainder was credits we get from DTE, so it'll only cost us a little over \$9,000. But -- the total amount of the cost, conversion is ~~\$480~~ ^{\$480,000}.

I also want to point out to Mr. Bovitz that it's one of the things that I'm hearing from my fellow city managers, that once the conversion goes through, the LEDs, that DTE's doing something with the rates. They've got to make sure they keep getting their funding, so. Well, they say we're going to get \$92,000 in savings. I believe them, but I'm also hearing these other things. But you're right, we got it for nothing anyway, so, it's immediate savings, so.

MR. BOVITZ: So the grant's independent of the agreement with DTE, and it's just DTE's assessment, that ~~96,220~~ ^{\$} is annual savings by the conversion process.

MR. O'NEAL: That's correct. But I'll wait and see what the rates are, as the list goes through.

MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. Any further discussion?

MR. BOVITZ: No.

MR. KORYZNO: All in favor of the motion to approve Resolution 61.15, say aye.

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

(No response.)

1 MR. KORYZNO: Motion is approved. Item C, budget
2 amendments, Resolution 62.15. Mr. Pepperman, could you please
3 summarize and explain your rationale for these budget amendments?

4 MR. PEPPERMAN: If I may refresh my memory, I
5 believe these are DPW adjustments, I was looking at? This is to
6 more properly place the cost with the activity. A lot of the wages
7 ~~as~~ ^{are} in the DPW department, yet services are being performed in the
8 water and sewer department. So the idea is to match the revenue
9 with the expense, with the activity, with the expense. So I wanted
10 to move cost out of DPW into the water and sewer department, where
11 the work was actually being performed.

12 I've had numerous conversations with Mr. Lawrence
13 regarding this, and we are in agreement that we need to move the
14 money over there, to properly relieve the overages in DPW and
15 charge the cost to water and sewer, whether it's available funds,
16 and not have an overage situation.

17 MR. KORYZNO: I was curious if there's new work
18 that's being done by the DPW in this area that wasn't done before,
19 that's causing this change, as opposed to when Ms. Parker was here
20 as the Emergency Manager?

21 MR. PEPPERMAN: Mostly the activity that I'm seeing
22 is emergency breakages, in water and sewer lines, that are forcing
23 DPW to go out and respond to the resident's concerns. And the
24 city's concern, to avoid further damage if we didn't respond. So
25 it really is kind of a future cost avoidance. If you don't now,

1 you're going to do it later, and it's probably going to cost you
2 more later. Of we are well aware.

3 MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you. Any questions
4 for Mr. Pepperman?

5 MS. PARKER: Yes.

6 MR. PEPPERMAN: Yes, Ms. Parker.

7 MS. PARKER: Just a question, just in reference to
8 the expense, you're saying you're taking it out of, let's say, the
9 general fund, and placing it in the water sewer fund?

10 MR. PEPPERMAN: Yes, cost.

11 MS. PARKER: Okay, so are you also transferring any,
12 like overhead charge, related to the operation?

13 MR. PEPPERMAN: No, I'm just moving the direct cost,
14 which would be the labor and the fringe that goes with it. But not
15 any of the overhead charges. Only the direct charges.

16 MS. PARKER: So, at what point does the water sewer
17 fund, or these other funds, get charged the overhead?

18 MR. PEPPERMAN: You want to take a stab at this?

19 MR. O'NEAL: Okay. Ms. Parker, if you recall,
20 members of the board, you have a \$350,000 charge to the water fund
21 for overhead and stuff like that. That number stays the same.

22 MS. PARKER: Okay.

23 MR. O'NEAL: What we were looking at, is relieving
24 the general fund of some pressure from those direct costs. But
25 that ~~\$350~~ stays -- ~~\$355~~ -- stays the same.

~~\$350,000~~
\$350,000

~~\$355,000~~
\$355,000

1 MS. PARKER: Okay. Thank you.

2 MR. KORYZNO: Any other questions for Mr. Pepperman?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. Okay, I'll entertain a
5 motion.

6 MR. BOVITZ: Move that we approve Resolution 62.15,
7 from the meeting of March the 3rd 2015.

8 MS. PARKER: Support.

9 MR. KORYZNO: Been moved and supported to approve
10 the resolution; any further discussion?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
13 motion say aye.

14 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

15 MS. PARKER: Aye.

16 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. All opposed same sign.

17 (No response.)

18 MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 62.15 is approved. Item
19 three, resolutions from regular city council meeting of March 17,
20 2015. I'll entertain a motion to approve the resolutions from the
21 March 17, 2015 city council meeting, with the exceptions of
22 Resolutions 74.15, 75.15, 76.15, and 77.15.

23 MS. PARKER: So moved.

24 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

25 MR. KORYZNO: It's been moved and supported; any

1 further discussion?

2 (No response.)

3 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
4 motion say aye.

5 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

6 MS. PARKER: Aye.

7 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

8 (No response.)

9 MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved. Item A,
10 downriver sewage disposal agreement, Resolution 74.15. Mr. Van de
11 Grift, has the city properly submitted the documentation for this
12 contract?

13 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Yes, they have. They've
14 submitted all the disclosures necessary for the RTAB to review the
15 city's membership in the downriver sewage disposal agreement.

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

18 MR. BOVITZ: Move that we accept, or approve,
19 Resolution 74.15 from the March 17th 2015 meeting.

20 MS. PARKER: Support.

21 MR. KORYZNO: Been moved and supported to approve
22 the resolution. Further discussion?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
25 motion say aye.

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MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 74.15 is approved. Item B, ICMA agreements, Resolution 75.15. This resolution created certain retirement funds for the benefit of the city, of the city administrator. Mr. O'Neal, would you -- will ~~only~~ ^{the only} the cost to the city be the ten percent that, the ten percent match that's detailed in your contract, or are there additional fees the city will be responsible for?

MR. O'NEAL: It's my understanding that the ten percent is the total cost, although there's something along the other agreements, there was a \$500 onetime charge for being within the ICMA. Other than that, that's it.

MR. KORYZNO: All right.

MR. O'NEAL: Other than the electronic transfer.

MR. KORYZNO: Sure. Any other questions from the board members?

MS. PARKER: Yes. You mentioned \$500; is that a onetime fee?

MR. O'NEAL: Yes.

MS. PARKER: Just to set up the account?

MR. O'NEAL: Yes.

MS. PARKER: Okay.

1 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. Action item on this, Mr.
2 Van de Grift?

3 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: I'm sorry, forgive me. I suppose
4 we would look for a resolution as to that.

5 MR. KORYZNO: Yes, entertain a motion to approve
6 Resolution 75.15.

7 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

8 MS. PARKER: Support.

9 MR. KORYZNO: Moved and supported; further
10 discussion?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. KORYZNO: All in favor of the motion say aye.

13 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

14 MS. PARKER: Aye.

15 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

16 (No response.)

17 MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 75.15 is approved. Item C,
18 the WCA assessing contract, Resolution 76.15. Has documentation
19 been submitted for this contract, Mr. Van de Grift?

20 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: All of it has. Very briefly,
21 Wayne County has ceased its assessing services, and so River Rouge
22 and Ecorse wish to kind of go in together for a reduced assessment
23 cost with WCA Assessing. The contract, which I presume is annual,
24 sums to \$59,500 and all the proper submissions have been made.

25 MR. KORYZNO: All right. I'll entertain a motion.

1 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

2 MS. PARKER: Support.

3 MR. KORYZNO: Been moved and supported to approve
4 Resolution 76.15, the WCA assessing contract; further discussion?

5 MR. BOVITZ: I just noticed on page six --

6 MR. KORYZNO: Mr. Bovitz?

7 MR. BOVITZ: Number 19, it says that the term of the
8 contract is through April 12th of 2018, so it's a three year
9 contract? Does that mean that we're going to review this annually?

10 MR. O'NEAL: You'll note in there, I think, that
11 there's a slight increase in the second two years. I believe they
12 talked about the rate of inflation, or something like that.

13 MR. BOVITZ: So we're approving it with the step up
14 in the fees?

15 MR. O'NEAL: Yeah, and quite frankly, Mr. Bovitz,
16 it's the only game in town. They're doing Inkster, they're doing
17 Highland Park, I think it's the only game in town. And they come
18 recommended, and they're within our budget anyway, so it's, thank
19 goodness.

20 MR. KORYZNO: Any other questions for Mr. O'Neal?

21 MS. PARKER: Yes.

22 MR. KORYZNO: Ms. Parker?

23 MS. PARKER: So, WCA, is this a new organization?

24 MR. O'NEAL: No, they've been doing cities within
25 Wayne County for a number of years; I believe they have 12 or 14

1 accounts already.

2 MS. PARKER: So they're not affiliated with the
3 county at all, it's not something that the --

4 MR. O'NEAL: No, I think they've got a lot of county
5 people working for them.

6 MS. PARKER: Okay.

7 MR. O'NEAL: That were with the county at one time.

8 MS. PARKER: And then secondly, as far as the
9 amount, is the amount that is being paid under this contract the
10 same amount that the city paid beforehand, or is it --

11 MR. O'NEAL: It's right there. It's real close.
12 It's real close.

13 MS. PARKER: Okay. Okay.

14 MR. O'NEAL: Matter of fact, we got a 20 percent
15 discount because I got Mr. ~~Bowden~~ ^{Bowdler} to come in from River Rouge and
16 do us both together.

17 MS. PARKER: Okay.

18 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you, Mr. O'Neal. Let's see, a
19 motion is on the table, so I'll -- all in favor of the motion to
20 approve Resolution 76.15, say aye.

21 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

22 MS. PARKER: Aye.

23 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

24 (No response.)

25 MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 76.15 is approved. Item D,

1 UHY verification agreement, Resolution 77.15. Mr. Van de Grift, is
2 this matter in order?

3 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: I am pleased to report it is.
4 This has been an issue for some time, the board will recall that
5 when Plante Moran separated, they initially were the verification
6 agent for a 2011 financial stabilization bond issuance. And so the
7 bondholder was seeking those assurances and verification,
8 covenant. And so negotiations have led to a contract for UHY to
9 perform these verification agent services. And so it's hoped that
10 this can continue, perhaps through the life of the bond, or for an
11 appreciable amount of time.

12 MR. BOVITZ: So that's the intent that UHY will be
13 the verification agent from here on out. Okay, very good. I'll
14 entertain a motion.

15 MS. PARKER: So moved.

16 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

17 MR. KORYZNO: It's been moved and supported to
18 approve Resolution 77.15.

19 Discussion?

20 MR. BOVITZ: This \$4,000 cost, is that an estimate
21 based on hourly rates or is that fixed?

22 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: That's the flat fee.

23 MR. O'NEAL: That's a flat fee they have in there.

24 MR. KORYZNO: Okay.

25 Any further discussion?

1 (No response.)
2 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
3 motion say aye.
4 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.
5 MS. PARKER: Aye.
6 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.
7 (No response.)
8 MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 77.15 is approved.
9 Item 4, Claims and Accounts from regular City
10 Council meeting Draft Minutes of March 31, 2015. I'll entertain a
11 motion to approve the Claims and Accounts?
12 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.
13 MS. PARKER: Support.
14 MR. KORYZNO: Been moved and supported.
15 Further discussion?
16 (No response.)
17 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
18 motion say aye. Aye.
19 MS. PARKER: Aye.
20 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.
21 MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.
22 (No response.)
23 MR. KORYZNO: The motion to approve Claims and
24 Accounts is approved.
25 Item 5, SRF Bond update. Mr. O'Neal, could you

1 provide us an update on this project and specifically the status of
2 the drawdowns for the State Revolving Loan Fund monies?

3 MR. O'NEAL: I have -- Mr. Chairman, I have Mark
4 Gaworecki from ~~Hennessey~~ ^{Hennessey} and John Pepperman if they can answer any
5 questions about the project, of what we're moving forward with.

6 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

7 MR. O'NEAL: And the drawdowns. And I think
8 everything's been going smoothly.

9 MR. GAWORECKI: Thank you, Wayne.

10 Good morning.

11 MR. KORYZNO: Good morning.

12 MR. GAWORECKI: I'm Mark Gaworecki from Hennessey
13 Engineers. The engineer that's in charge of the project was called
14 on another assignment so I'm filling in for him. I can give you an
15 update on the construction part of it.

16 It was a two-phase program; one was to do a relief
17 sewer for 15th Street and Outer Drive. That was completed last
18 fall. The second phase is building new storm sewer along Quality
19 Drive at U.S. Steel. That project is ongoing. Right now we're
20 approximately -- probably just over half of the pipe's in the
21 ground. We've run into some minor snags but we anticipate within
22 the next month or two we should be completed with that project as
23 well. Like I said, we've run into some minor things but in
24 construction when you start opening the ground God only knows what
25 you're going to find and the people at U.S. Steel were surprised of

1 what we've found so far sometimes, too, so overall it's on budget
2 and we're very happy with the progress.

3 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

4 MR. PEPPERMAN: As far as the financing goes, it
5 appears to be running smoothly. I have not submitted any drawdowns
6 for the SRF since I've been here. Hennessey has said that the
7 project is moving around ~~X~~ *along* and is on budget. I don't see any hiccups
8 coming that will have us having an overrun on the budget.

9 MR. KORYZNO: Any questions from the board members
10 on this?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. KORYZNO: Mr. Van de Grift did you have any?

13 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Just for clarification. The DEQ
14 is holding kind of a pot of money for this project. Hennessey, are
15 you requesting the drawdowns, then, as the project progresses?

16 MR. GAWORECKI: As far as I understand is that's
17 what we'll do is when we get the request for payment from the
18 contractor we'll submit the paperwork and all the information for
19 the draw down and then forward it on to the city. Because then
20 what will happen, the state will reimburse the city as well. So --
21 from my understanding, so.

22 ~~X~~ *Mr. Van de Grift*
THE DEFENDANT: And you initiate that?

23 MR. GAWORECKI: Yes. Yes.

24 MS. PARKER: So there hasn't been any request for
25 payment from the contractor?

1 MR. GAWORECKI: As far as I know, Ms. Parker, they
2 have not requested anything as of this time which surprises me but
3 we've worked with ~~the~~ ^{them} in the past and they've worked well with us
4 and the contractor has.

5 MR. KORYZNO: All right. Any other questions?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you, gentlemen.

8 MR. GAWORECKI: You're welcome.

9 MR. KORYZNO: Item B, letter from city administrator
10 dated April 8, 2015. Item 1, City Council Minutes were addressed
11 in new business. Item 2, Budget to Actual Report. We'll entertain
12 a motion to approve the Budget to Actual Report.

13 MR. BOVITZ: So move.

14 MS. PARKER: Support.

15 MR. KORYZNO: Moved and supported. Further
16 discussion?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
19 motion say aye?

20 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

21 MS. PARKER: Aye.

22 MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

23 Opposed, same sign.

24 (No response.)

25 MR. KORYZNO: The Budget to Actual Report is

1 approved.

2 Item 3, Snow Ordinance was addressed in Old
3 Business.

4 Item 4, Animal Control Service Agreement and
5 Extension was also addressed in Old Business.

6 Item 5, Boat Ramp Contract extension has been
7 addressed.

8 Item 6, Budget amendments, addressed as well.

9 Item 7, Downriver Sewage Disposal Agreement has been
10 addressed by the Board.

11 Item 8, UHY Verification Agreement, addressed.

12 Item 9, Wayne County Assessing Contract has been
13 addressed.

14 Item 10, Treasury Clerk Appointment, has been
15 addressed.

16 Item 11, ICMA Agreements, has been addressed.

17 Item 12, Purchase of Turnout Gear; addressed in New
18 Business.

19 Item 13, Distressed Cities Grant Agreement,
20 addressed in New Business.

21 Item 14, Street Lighting Agreement with DTE was
22 addressed in New Business.

23 And finally, Number 15, Recreation Director
24 Appointment, addressed in New Business.

25 That brings us to the public comment portion of the

1 meeting. Mr. Van de Grift will serve as timekeeper. You will have
2 two minutes to speak as dictated by the Board's rules. Mr. Van de
3 Grift, are you ready to proceed?

4 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Only one this morning, Ms. Marcia
5 Cotton.

6 MS. COTTON: Good morning.

7 MR. KORYZNO: Good morning.

8 MS. COTTON: I'm Marcia Cotton, I'm the deputy
9 controller here for the city of Ecorse.

10 I just wanted to address the issue of city
11 controller, the position, that's being filled. I wasn't going to
12 say anything but it's kind of difficult to hear the conversation
13 and to be almost invisible in the whole process.

14 I saw the position for the city controller in the
15 email. I wasn't told about it. It was out there for two weeks.
16 It wasn't discussed with me that the position was open. I didn't
17 know that the city was looking for a city controller. I waited for
18 some information but it never came so on the last day I decided to
19 file for the position of deputy controller and the reason why I
20 found -- because I did not want to be viewed as what I do doesn't
21 matter here. Plante Moran left the city December 30th. On January
22 2nd when I came back to the city, I immediately took over those
23 things that Plante Moran did. I'm not about the politics, I'm
24 about getting things done.

25 At that time we were in the middle of property tax

1 collection and distribution. I had always hit the front end but I
2 had to do certain things in order for the city to continue to
3 operate and I did those things without any consideration, without
4 no one asking, without no additional compensation. And I continued
5 to do the work that the city controller was doing up until the time
6 UHY came in.

7 When UHY came in, Mr. Pepperman, like he said, he
8 had to have a learning curve. He was not familiar with municipal
9 governments and accounting so he had to have someone to tell him
10 and to show him what to do and how to do it. So the only persons
11 that were in the office was myself and Lynn. We worked with Mr.
12 Pepperman. But like I said, I don't want all this to go as the
13 work that Lynn and myself was doing was all for naught. I applied
14 for the position, we had an interview. And with all due respect to
15 the four that were at the interview, Mr. Wayne O'Neal, the Chief,
16 Laura, and Mr. Pepperman, I don't feel as though it was an
17 impartial interview. I don't feel as though they were qualified to
18 interview me.

19 When I was brought on as a deputy controller, there
20 was a panel of three outside individuals with no connection to the
21 city that interviewed us. Because I believe there was some
22 internal candidates and they wanted the interview to be impartial.
23 There was no impartiality. Because I was an internal candidate and
24 with all due respect to their positions, they were not qualified to
25 interview me for the position of deputy controller for the city of

1 Ecorse. And this has been bothering me because the work that I'm
2 doing is being overlooked.

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

4 MS. COTTON: You need someone to oversee the
5 treasurer's office, you need someone to oversee the controller's
6 office on a day-to-day basis. So I wanted to publicly say that.
7 And yes, I did apply for the city controller's position but I'm
8 publicly withdrawing my application for that position because of
9 the way in which I was handled in the process. It was not fair.

10 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you, Ms. Cotton. The two
11 minutes are up.

12 You say there are no other individuals signed up for
13 public comments?

14 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: That's correct.

15 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

16 Board comment is the next item. Just a reminder
17 that all contracts including employment contracts over \$10,000 must
18 go before city council and come before the RTAB.

19 The following items have been tabled, no further
20 action will be taken until a five-year budget is submitted or other
21 information is received and they are listed on the agenda.

22 So any --

23 MR. O'NEAL: May I --

24 MR. KORYZNO: Yes, Mr. O'Neal?

25 MR. O'NEAL: As I indicated earlier, I'd like to

1 comment on these?

2 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

3 MR. O'NEAL: If it's okay.

4 As I indicated on your agenda, no further action
5 will be taken until a five-year budget is submitted or other
6 information is received.

7 On the resolution 2015-4, DPW, I believe that deals
8 with the amendments that were needed to cover overtimes and things
9 that took place in the storm in August. Again, the amendment that
10 you approved today alleviates a lot of that pressure and money
11 within that budget line item -- and within that department to cover
12 those costs. We have \$34,000 coming from FEMA that's been approved
13 by FEMA to cover a myriad of costs associated with the things that
14 are within those amendments that you're asking for so quite
15 frankly, if I'm misspeaking myself, Mr. Koryzno, I don't think we
16 ~~think~~^{need} an amendment any more because we're going to be getting that
17 first \$34,000 from FEMA that will cover the vast majority of the
18 costs associated with that storm.

19 The master plan.

20 We received -- and I apologize for if my numbers are
21 not exact. We received a state grant for approximately \$15,000.
22 We are required to -- in order to get and to apply for grants, to
23 have a recreation master plan updated on a five-year basis and the
24 overall city Master Plan updated on a five-year basis. We finished
25 the Recreation Master Plan. We are finishing the master plan for

1 the city. We had a State of the City and a Master Plan meeting,
2 the city addressed, it was very well received and we got a lot of
3 input from there. But the total cost, I believe, between the two
4 of them is around \$21,000, real close to that. And we have a
5 \$15,000 grant so you're looking at an expenditure in excess of the
6 grant we've got of \$6,000. That said, finding money to cover that
7 will not be an issue and how that impacts on a five-year budget, we
8 won't see that again for five years so I don't see an impact on the
9 five-year budget going forward.

10 As far as the resolution to withdraw from the Wayne
11 County Library System; I had a meeting with the principle folks
12 with Wayne County and their library was also our library and we're
13 out. They wanted us to be out yesterday. So we have formally
14 withdrawn, you haven't approved the resolution, we're withdrawn and
15 there's no place to go. They did agree to leave us in there until
16 at least July 1st. I've already met with Mayor Bowdler from River
17 Rouge about having the -- sharing of their librarian on a 40/60
18 split. In the 2015/16 budget there's a mill that's has been
19 approved for library services that will cover the library itself
20 and going forward into the five-year budget.

21 As far as the employment contract that you've drawn
22 in there, I would like to point out that going forward in a five-
23 year budget that position is in there. The position is in there
24 for the 15/16 budget with a positive fund balance. I will also
25 note that I don't have the increased cost at my fingertips but I

1 believe it was less than \$20,000 for the wages and benefits for
2 that position. I would respectfully say it's not a wage increase
3 because the person is not an employee of the city at the time. The
4 person is a contractual employee wanting to make that person an
5 employee of the city thereby setting a rate of pay. The rate of
6 pay for that position commensurate with that, there are two of them
7 that are currently advertised on the Michigan municipal website for
8 up to \$52,000 for that position. They're on there. I will also
9 say that we have cut over \$200,000 in salaries, both in the HR
10 position, building official position and on and on and that will
11 more than cover the cost of that contract or that person's position
12 and quite frankly that's a key part of my management team. And
13 anybody that goes into a city, a state, the governor, whoever,
14 brings their management team in and develops the management team
15 that they feel comfortable with and can help them move their
16 organization forward. That's a very key position.

17 I know Ms. Parker, when you came, you brought Liz
18 Foltz (phonetic) and Dorcas, I don't know what her last name is,
19 but you brought your management team with you and you did your job
20 and you do that. We're trying to do that here in Ecorse to move
21 Ecorse forward. That's why you've got -- you'll see the position
22 for the controller, you'll see the position in my office, you see
23 the reduction in positions in other things because there are areas
24 of expertise that I have and that will be filled by those key
25 people. So moving forward with the five-year budget, that position

1 is very, very critical to the operation of this organization.
2 Quite frankly, that person helped keep this place afloat between my
3 transition in coming back and with the other ones, and we won't go
4 into detail on that. But I'm also -- I want you to note that when
5 I'm speaking to these things right now the mayor implored me to use
6 his name, that I'm speaking for the mayor and those people on the
7 council that support his ideas and my ideas. So while I'm also the
8 messenger, I'm also speaking for myself as a management team that
9 we need -- we need these things to move Ecorse forward and we're
10 doing good things and you'll be happy to note that the last regular
11 council meeting that there was about ten items that were on the
12 agenda that dealt with the budget, that dealt with a lot of things
13 that Ecorse needs to move forward that were approved on a
14 seven/zero vote with no dissention. And that's where we're headed
15 and that's where we want to go.

16 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

17 MR. KORYZNO: Thanks, Mr. O'Neal.

18 Any comments from the Board?

19 MS. PARKER: Yes.

20 MR. KORYZNO: Yes, Ms. Parker.

21 MS. PARKER: Just wanted to clarify a couple of
22 things. I certainly can't speak for all of the members of the RTAB
23 but I do believe I serve on the RTAB as part of the city team to
24 make sure that we get things done and we do things the proper way.

25 In terms of my management team, I actually

1 advertised, I didn't bring anyone on board other than going through
2 a process and making a determination on the person that is best
3 qualified for the position. I didn't know certain people before I
4 came on board in Ecorse. It was basically a pretty open
5 transparent process. What I as a member of the Board would like is
6 the five-year plan so that I can see the entire comprehensive
7 picture of where the city is at at this point in time and where the
8 city will be within the five years in order to say, yes, these
9 decisions make sense. So I think if there's a possibility of
10 getting that done before some of these other things come in front
11 of the Board, it would be very beneficial.

12 MR. KORYZNO: I would agree with your statements,
13 Ms. Parker.

14 Any other comments?

15 (No response.)

16 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion
17 to adjourn.

18 MS. PARKER: So moved.

19 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

20 MR. KORYZNO: Moved and supported, all in favor of
21 the motion say aye?

22 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

23 MS. PARKER: Aye.

24 MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

25 Opposed, same sign?

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(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: The Ecorse Receivership Transition
Advisory Board meeting is adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

Thank you.

(At 10:01 a.m. meeting adjourned.)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

April 29, 2015

s/ Amy Shankleton-Novess

Amy Shankleton-Novess (CER 0838)

Certified Electronic Reporter