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CITY OF FLINT  
RECEIVERSHIP TRANSITION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2016  
10:00 A.M.

A Special Meeting before the RTAB  
Board at 1101 S. Saginaw, 3rd Floor, Council  
Chambers, Flint, Michigan, on Friday, February  
26, 2016.

BOARD MEMBERS:

- Frederick Headen, Chairperson
- Michael Finney, Member
- Michael Townsend, Member
- Joel Ferguson, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

- R. Eric Cline (Department of Treasury)
- Mayor Karen Weaver (City of Flint)

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ADDRESSING THE BOARD:

- Monica Galloway (Councilwoman)
- Eric Mays (Councilman)

REPORTED BY:

- Quentina R. Snowden, (CSR-5519)
- Certified Shorthand Reporter,
- Notary Public

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F. Addendum to Agenda - 25/27  
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1 Friday, February 26, 2016

2 Flint, Michigan

3 10:07 a.m.

4 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Meeting will be  
5 in order, please. Meeting will be in order, please.  
6 Meeting will please be in order.

7 First item of business is roll call.

8 Let the record reflect, please, that four members  
9 are present. We have a quorum.

10 Before we proceed further, I would  
11 like to acknowledge our newest member, Mr. Joel  
12 Ferguson, welcome him to the RTAB.

13 If you wish to say anything, Mr.  
14 Ferguson, please feel free to do so.

15 MEMBER FERGUSON: I think I'll say  
16 something. Just honored to be here, and my goal is  
17 to work with all of us to make Flint a better city.

18 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Next item is the  
19 approval of the agenda. Are there any additions to  
20 the agenda that any members have?

21 MEMBER FINNEY: Mr. Chairman, I would  
22 move to approve.

23 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Is there support?

24 MEMBER TOWNSEND: Support.

25 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Without

1 objection, the agenda is approved.

2 The next item of business is the  
3 approval of the RTAB minutes of the regular meeting  
4 of February 10th. They are Attachment 1. Are there  
5 corrections or additions to those minutes?

6 If not, I'll entertain a motion that  
7 the minutes be approved as written.

8 MEMBER TOWNSEND: Motion to approve.

9 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Is there support?

10 MEMBER FINNEY: Support.

11 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Those in favor,  
12 please say "Aye".

13 (All ayes.)

14 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Opposed? Minutes  
15 are adopted.

16 We have no unfinished business.

17 New business. Madam Mayor, do you  
18 wish to address us? Good morning.

19 MAYOR WEAVER: Good morning. Yes,  
20 thank you for this opportunity. First, I really  
21 want to thank you, Mr. Chairman, and the RTAB  
22 Committee for having this special meeting today, and  
23 one of the things that I've talked about is time  
24 being of the essence in trying to get staff and  
25 personnel in place. This is essential.

1 I've tried to, and I said this the  
2 other day, I've tried to be very responsible in  
3 these appointments, not only as far as fiscally  
4 responsible, but as far as quality. One of the  
5 things that I would -- people that I have looked at  
6 appointing, I would like to take an opportunity to  
7 thank them for accepting even the pay that was  
8 offered, because it was lower than what had been put  
9 in place before.

10 One of the things I have done was  
11 using the past City Administrator salary to put in  
12 two positions, and I'm asking if you would approve  
13 cancelling of the contract so we can do this.

14 I've asked -- I'd like to present --  
15 -- but I would like to present the people that I  
16 have. But I do want to say before I call them up  
17 and say their names, that these positions are more  
18 than needed. There are days when I am here, as are  
19 other people, working, you know, 12, 13, 14 hours  
20 and I know we can't continue like this when we have  
21 this kind of crisis going on.

22 Some people have questioned the  
23 quality of people I'm putting before them. One of  
24 the things I would say is, anybody I would put in  
25 any position or that's already in a position would

1 be held accountable. You know, and that's not for  
2 just these new appointments, it's for anybody that's  
3 not doing their job would be held accountable and  
4 would not be here. I have put teams together before  
5 so this is not my first round at this.

6 So, I would appreciate if you would  
7 consider the appointments that I've put in place and  
8 I would really like to have them stand up, or come  
9 up here, and if you have questions of me or them,  
10 this would be an opportunity for that to happen.

11 As far as the Police Chief, it's Tim  
12 Johnson. The Fire Chief, Mr. Ray Barton. For Chief  
13 of Staff, Rodney Branch, who is not here today, and  
14 for the City Administrator, Mr. Sylvester Jones.  
15 Thank you.

16 MEMBER FERGUSON: Excuse me, Mayor,  
17 could you say all the names again. Through the  
18 applause, I don't think we heard all of them.

19 MAYOR WEAVER: Well, one person is not  
20 here, that is Rodney Branch, so that's why you only  
21 see three people standing before you, Mr. Tim  
22 Johnson, Mr. Sylvester Jones, and Mr. Ray Barton.

23 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Welcome,  
24 gentlemen.

25 FROM THE AUDIENCE: Thank you, sir.

1 MEMBER FINNEY: I have no questions.

2 MR. BARTON: Ray Barton. And Mayor  
3 chose to appoint me as Fire Chief and I can give you  
4 a brief history of myself. I did almost 27 years at  
5 Flint Fire Department. I held -- actually held  
6 every position in the suppression during the time  
7 under the emergency management and we had a public  
8 safety director, I was an assistant chief at that  
9 time.

10 I had the pleasure of working with Mr.  
11 Townsend, and he can verify I actually did duties as  
12 the Chief for three years. I was responsible for  
13 putting together the budget, operations, adopting  
14 standard operation procedures. Like I say, I was  
15 also was the safety training officer.

16 I understand why the pay was what it  
17 was because when we first told -- the two SAFER  
18 grants, under the second SAFER grant at the time it  
19 was SAFER and when the budget was done we just did a  
20 budget based on five year pay scale. And so, under  
21 the SAFER grant some of the firefighters that we  
22 were retaining actually had over five years of  
23 service. So when we go for the second SAFER grant  
24 we fell short by \$40,000.

25 Again, I was assistant chief at the



1 time, but I held the position of safety training  
2 officer. So at that time we suspended the safety  
3 training officer position and we were allowed to  
4 save \$40,000. We suspended that position for six  
5 months and I still had the duties of the safety  
6 training officer while being an assistant fire  
7 chief, so the salary was created, it was \$86,000.

8 So when they brought the Chief in the  
9 only money allowed in the budget to pay a fire chief  
10 was \$86,000. And I understood that and I was more  
11 than willing, if that's what we had to do to make  
12 the fire department perform. If you have any  
13 questions.

14 MEMBER FINNEY: Thank you.

15 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Thank you.

16 MR. JONES: Well, good morning. My  
17 name is Sylvester Jones. I am delighted to be  
18 appointed or be recommended to the RTAB as your next  
19 City Administrator. I have more than 20 years of  
20 experience in this community working from -- I was  
21 the executive director of Big Brothers Big Sisters,  
22 served as the program officer for the Mott  
23 Foundation for nearly two years and also served as a  
24 senior associate at United Way for both fund  
25 distribution as well as fund development.

1 I love this community, I've been here  
2 for my entire life, I'm a graduate of Northern High  
3 School, 1986. I'm also a graduate of Saginaw Valley  
4 State University and Central Michigan University. I  
5 have worked in this community for a very long time  
6 and I believe of what this community can become.  
7 I'm delighted and looking forward to working for our  
8 Mayor to advance her goal and vision for this  
9 community.

10 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Thank you.

11 MR. JOHNSON: Good morning, sirs. My  
12 name is Timothy Johnson and I have 20-plus years in  
13 law enforcement as an officer. I started my career  
14 as a young man, 18 years old, pursued that career  
15 starting with the Detroit Police and Wayne County  
16 Sheriff Department. I kind of got tired of working  
17 in the jail so I came to the streets of Flint and  
18 since I've been here I started from the ranks of  
19 patrol officer, climbing the ranks, worked every  
20 division, ran every division, supervised as a  
21 ranking supervisor. Love the City of Flint also,  
22 have the City's best interests at heart.

23 I was appointed as the executive  
24 director of youth activities league and ran my own  
25 budget there. I actually have my own business in

1 Flint. Also, I've got real estate in this city, I  
2 have a commitment here, I have a stake here. And I  
3 owe the City. I owe the City. I said it once, I  
4 said it twice, I said it a million times, I feel  
5 like I owe this city. I was truly blessed here.

6 My business thrived here and as a  
7 police officer, every unit that I was involved in  
8 that I supervised I took my job serious. I did my  
9 job and it wasn't an easy one as far as, you know,  
10 you have the risks, but I did it with respect, I did  
11 it with confidence and I did it within the lines of  
12 the law. I didn't cross that line, I didn't fudge  
13 the reports, because I knew somebody committed a  
14 crime. I was honest in my dealings with the  
15 citizens of Flint. I had people come up to me all  
16 the time on the street thanking me for sending them  
17 to jail, believe it or not, and saving their lives.

18 But just to keep it short, this city  
19 has truly been a blessing to me and I want to give  
20 back. Didn't come looking for a job, don't need a  
21 job, believe it or not, I have a thriving business  
22 in this city, it has been, it's grossed over a  
23 million dollars from the second year it went into  
24 operation and it continues to be a prosperous  
25 business. But I owe this city and -- and as police

1 chief I can give back and I can police this Police  
2 Department as far as supervising them, leading them  
3 in the right direction.

4 Right now the Department has a lot of  
5 issues. The morale is low. And it's some things we  
6 need to do to bring this City back where it needs to  
7 be. So I thank you for the time to talk to you. If  
8 you have any questions, feel free to ask.

9 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Thank you, Mr.  
10 Johnson. I can assure you the RTAB will thank you.  
11 Thank you, gentlemen.

12 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, sir.

13 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Next item on the  
14 agenda is Council President. Council President  
15 Nelson, no comment? Thank you.

16 Next item on the agenda is  
17 consideration of the position description for police  
18 chief. Just to clarify, as the RTAB members know,  
19 pursuant to the resolution which we adopted last  
20 month, restoring the Mayor's authority to make  
21 appointments, the RTAB does not actually approve  
22 appointments or appointees, we approve minimum job  
23 qualifications embodied in the position descriptions  
24 and we approve salary ranges, or in this case actual  
25 salaries that the Mayor proposed to the RTAB for the

1 various positions.

2 First one is the chief of police  
3 description with a proposed salary of \$90,000. RTAB  
4 members received previously a copy of the position  
5 description for police chief. Are there any  
6 questions regarding that?

7 MEMBER FINNEY: Mr. Chair, I move  
8 approval.

9 CHAIRPERSON: Is there support?

10 MEMBER FERGUSON: Support.

11 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Any discussion?  
12 Hearing none, those in favor of approving the  
13 position description for police chief, please say  
14 "Aye."

15 (All ayes.)

16 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Opposed? Motion  
17 is adopted.

18 With respect now to the proposed  
19 salary for the position description of \$90,000, is  
20 there any discussion regarding that? If not, I'll  
21 entertain a motion that that proposed salary be  
22 approved.

23 MEMBER TOWNSEND: Motion to approve.

24 MEMBER FINNEY: Support.

25 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Any further

1 discussion? Those in favor, please say "Aye."

2 (All ayes.)

3 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Opposed? Motion  
4 is adopted.

5 The next item is consideration of  
6 position description for position of fire chief.  
7 Again, that position description was circulated  
8 previously to Board members. The salary proposed  
9 for that particular position by the Mayor is  
10 \$86,000.

11 Any discussion regarding the position  
12 description?

13 MEMBER FINNEY: Mr. Chair, I would  
14 move approval.

15 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Is there support?

16 MEMBER TOWNSEND: Support.

17 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Any further  
18 discussion? If not, those in favor of approving the  
19 position description for fire chief, please say  
20 "Aye."

21 (All ayes.)

22 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Opposed? Motion  
23 is adopted.

24 Now with respect to the proposed  
25 salary of \$86,000, is there any discussion regarding

1 that salary? If not, I will entertain a motion to  
2 approve the position description -- I'm sorry, the  
3 salary.

4 MEMBER TOWNSEND: Motion to approve.

5 MEMBER FINNEY: Support.

6 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Those in favor  
7 please say "Aye."

8 (All ayes.)

9 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Opposed? Motion  
10 is adopted.

11 The next item on the agenda is the  
12 consideration of the chief of staff position  
13 description, and salary ranges. That was circulated  
14 previously. Proposed salary for the position is  
15 \$75,000. Any questions regarding the position  
16 description?

17 MEMBER TOWNSEND: None. Motion to  
18 approve.

19 MEMBER FINNEY: Support.

20 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Motion is made  
21 and supported. Those in favor, please say "Aye."

22 (All ayes.)

23 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Opposed? Motion  
24 is adopted.

25 Now with respect to the salary for the

1 position, \$75,000, discussion regarding that?

2 MEMBER TOWNSEND: The only discussion  
3 I would have, Mr. Chair, is the salary amount is  
4 based on -- if I could have the Mayor or someone  
5 address what the salary is based on, this being a  
6 new position, whether that's based on similar  
7 positions in other --

8 MAYOR WEAVER: Yes. It's actually  
9 lower than similar positions.

10 MEMBER FERGUSON: You said it was  
11 lower? It seemed pretty low to me. Why is this --  
12 why are you recommending lower?

13 MAYOR WEAVER: I'm trying to --

14 MEMBER FERGUSON: Why is it  
15 recommended lower if --

16 MAYOR WEAVER: I went lower on all of  
17 them. I went lower on all of the salaries I put in  
18 than what was previously in there.

19 MEMBER FERGUSON: The person you  
20 talked with, they're satisfied with that salary?

21 MAYOR WEAVER: Yes.

22 MEMBER FERGUSON: Okay.

23 MAYOR WEAVER: Yes, I talked with  
24 them.

25 MEMBER FERGUSON: Okay.



1                   MAYOR WEAVER: Yeah, I was trying to  
2 stay within the budget.

3                   MEMBER FINNEY: Mayor, just a quick  
4 question just for clarification. Because it's a new  
5 position, you indicated during your opening comments  
6 that you used some of the adjustments that you  
7 made --

8                   MAYOR WEAVER: Yes.

9                   MEMBER FINNEY: -- to all four -- of  
10 the other three salaries to accommodate this salary;  
11 is that understanding correct?

12                   MAYOR WEAVER: Yes.

13                   MEMBER FINNEY: Okay. So -- so the  
14 budget dollars should be available --

15                   MAYOR WEAVER: Yes.

16                   MEMBER FINNEY: -- based on the  
17 changes that you made to the other three positions?

18                   MAYOR WEAVER: Yes. And I met with  
19 Jody before she was gone.

20                   CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Any further  
21 questions?

22                   MEMBER FINNEY: I move approval or  
23 have we already got a motion on the floor?

24                   CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: We do not.

25                   MEMBER FINNEY: I would move for

1 approval for the salary.

2 MEMBER FERGUSON: Support.

3 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Any further  
4 discussion? Those in favor of the motion, please  
5 say "Aye."

6 (All ayes.)

7 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Opposed? Motion  
8 is adopted.

9 Next item of business are approval of  
10 two City Council Resolutions, 160016, which is the  
11 City Council Resolution approving the appointment of  
12 Mr. Johnson as Chief of Police. We'll take that  
13 item first.

14 Any discussion regarding that City  
15 Council Resolution from, I believe, February 22nd  
16 City Council meeting? Any discussion gentlemen?

17 MEMBER FINNEY: Just -- I have one  
18 comment. I would note that the resolution does not  
19 have the Council President's signature on it yet.  
20 I'm assuming that will take place?

21 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Council President  
22 Nelson?

23 MR. NELSON: Yes.

24 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Is that a correct  
25 assumption? Further questions? If not, is there a

1 motion that City Council Resolution 160016 for the  
2 regular meeting of February 22nd be approved?

3 MEMBER FINNEY: So moved.

4 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Is there support?

5 MEMBER TOWNSEND: Support.

6 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Any further  
7 discussion? If not, those in favor of the motion,  
8 please say "Aye."

9 (All ayes.)

10 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Opposed? Motion  
11 is adopted.

12 Next item is City Council Resolution  
13 160017 from the same regular Council meeting of  
14 February 22nd. This is a City Council Resolution  
15 approving the appointment of Mr. Barton as Fire  
16 Chief.

17 Any discussion or questions about that  
18 City Council Resolution?

19 MEMBER FINNEY: Mr. Chair, I would  
20 just make the same comment with respect to the City  
21 Council President's signature. I trust that will be  
22 forthcoming.

23 MR. CLINE: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman,  
24 if I may, the City informed us that in order to get  
25 the copies to the Board, they were transmitted

1 before those signatures were acquired, but they have  
2 subsequently been acquired. So you just have an  
3 older copy that doesn't have the signatures, but  
4 they do --

5 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Thank you, Mr.  
6 Cline.

7 Any questions about Resolution 160017?  
8 If not, is there a motion that it be approved?

9 MEMBER TOWNSEND: Motion to approve.

10 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Support?

11 MEMBER FERGUSON: Support.

12 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Motion is made  
13 and supported. Those in favor of the motion, please  
14 say "Aye."

15 (All ayes.)

16 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Opposed? Motion  
17 is adopted.

18 If there is no objection, I'm going to  
19 suggest that we take a five-minute recess, call of  
20 the Chair. Without objection.

21 (Off the record at 10:28 a.m.)

22 (Back on the record at 10:46 a.m.)

23 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Meeting will be  
24 in order, please. Meeting will be in order, please.  
25 We have an addition to the agenda.

1                   MEMBER FINNEY: Mr. Chair, I would  
2 propose we add one additional item to the agenda.

3                   We received in a pre-packet, an  
4 additional job description and salary recommendation  
5 for the City Administrator's position. And even  
6 though that was not on our agenda, I would move that  
7 we add that item to our agenda for consideration  
8 today.

9                   MEMBER FERGUSON: So moved.

10                  MEMBER TOWNSEND: Support.

11                  CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Motion has been  
12 made and supported twice. Is there discussion?

13                  MEMBER FERGUSON: Well, I think being  
14 here I can see this is an item has a great deal of  
15 interest. This is an item of great interest for  
16 everyone here, and that's why it's being added to  
17 the agenda.

18                  And much to my surprise, we're kind of  
19 a three-headed monster, or -- that we have to  
20 approve the Mayor -- and just to be very candid with  
21 you, it would be very difficult for me to run a  
22 city, a university, or a business if I am in charge  
23 and someone before me was in charge and they're  
24 still there. You know, if we're really talking  
25 about electing someone and having them be

1 successful, we really have to give them the tools to  
2 be effective, and part of being effective is not  
3 having to look over your shoulder.

4 And so, while we don't have the final  
5 say -- and I'm very candid, I have no problem in  
6 telling the City Council that their roles will be  
7 part of the solution. And being chairman of  
8 Michigan State University where we have an excellent  
9 university, a great president, excellent coaches,  
10 good Board, and I've always bragged that the  
11 strength of our Board is no one ever hears about us,  
12 you know. When we're not effective, then we're the  
13 center of attention, because -- and I've always said  
14 the key thing to being successful is everyone  
15 staying in their lane. Okay?

16 And we're holding the Mayor  
17 accountable as an administrator of the City and we  
18 have to give her the tools to do her job, and one of  
19 the tools is where she going to have to look over  
20 her shoulder.

21 So I'm going to go on record as saying  
22 that we're going to endorse her position about this.  
23 So that's where we are. And I happen to feel that  
24 if we're going to fight, people ought to know where  
25 people are lined up. And this is where we're lined

1 up. So that's the way it's going to happen.

2 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Motion request --

3 MEMBER TOWNSEND: I have a comment  
4 also. I want to make sure that we understand that  
5 our role in this position -- and correct me if I'm  
6 wrong, Mr. Chair -- but our role in this whole  
7 process is to approve the position description and  
8 the salary. We do not approve any individuals that  
9 are in any way appointed to those positions. That  
10 is the responsibility of the Mayor and the City  
11 Council through the Charter process.

12 But our role is to approve the  
13 description and the salary, that's what we've done  
14 with the three positions that were before us.

15 Our additional role would be to  
16 approve any resolutions that come from City Council.  
17 So what we have done so far is just that. We have  
18 approved descriptions, job descriptions that were  
19 presented to us, and also the salaries that were  
20 associated with those, and we approved the  
21 resolutions that have been put before us at this  
22 point in time.

23 And Mr. Finney very aptly put this on  
24 because we were presented with an additional  
25 position description, and a salary, and those,

1 again -- and that's why I believe this is important  
2 for us to vote on that too, with the information  
3 that's been put forth.

4 MEMBER FINNEY: Mr. Chair, I'd just  
5 like to add, just echo the comments that's been made  
6 by the other RTAB members, probably starting off by  
7 congratulating the new fire chief and police chief.  
8 I think those two positions have gone through the  
9 full process of being recommended by the Mayor,  
10 approved by the City Council, and of course the RTAB  
11 today approving the position descriptions and the  
12 salaries. And so I trust that those two are set to  
13 go, and I congratulate both of those gentlemen.

14 With respect to the Chief of Staff  
15 position, obviously we took action to approve the  
16 job description, and the salary range.

17 And then with respect to the City  
18 Administrator, because we did receive that position  
19 description as well, that is the reason why I felt  
20 it was important for us to move on it today.

21 But as Mr. Townsend just articulated,  
22 we're not here to approve the individuals. That's  
23 really the Mayor's decision in terms of who she  
24 wants to be a part of her team, and for the City  
25 Council to bless those through whatever the normal



1 City process is, and then the RTAB would in fact  
2 approve resolutions that come from the City's  
3 Council.

4 And so that is our role, and it's  
5 pretty straightforward, I think it is our  
6 responsibility to move forward. And Mr. Chairman, I  
7 would call for the question.

8 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Question has been  
9 called and is a non-debatable motion.

10 Those in favor of calling the  
11 question, please say "Aye."

12 (All ayes.)

13 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Opposed?  
14 Question is called. We now move to the main motion  
15 which is the approval of the position description  
16 for the position of City Administrator.

17 Those in favor please say "Aye."

18 (All ayes.)

19 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Opposed? Motion  
20 is adopted.

21 That leaves the issue of the proposed  
22 salary for the position of \$90,000, proposed by the  
23 Mayor. Is there a motion that that salary be  
24 approved?

25 MEMBER FERGUSON: So moved.

1 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Is there support?

2 MEMBER TOWNSEND: Support.

3 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Any discussion?

4 MEMBER FINNEY: Mr. Chairman, I do  
5 want to offer, again, my understanding that the four  
6 positions represents an approximate value, the same  
7 value as the three positions previously did, and I  
8 think the Mayor and her team have done a good job of  
9 figuring out how to stretch the budget dollars that  
10 we have here for the City. And I think that's an  
11 important thing to happen, and so I just wanted to  
12 add that as a thought.

13 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Thank you.

14 MEMBER TOWNSEND: I'd also like to  
15 add, knowing history in the City of Flint,  
16 traditionally the City Administrator position is  
17 higher than the other appointed positions, and I  
18 understand that you're staying within the budget in  
19 reference to that, but by Charter I believe that  
20 originally the City Administrator's position has a  
21 certain percentage that no one else was supposed to  
22 do that.

23 So again, I just throw that out there,  
24 hopefully that you have taken that into  
25 consideration in balancing these budgets.

1 I know, as you've said already, Mayor,  
2 that you did all things necessary to make sure that  
3 this budget is balanced, and again, I just want to  
4 bring that up as a point.

5 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Question is on  
6 the adoption of the motion. Is there further  
7 comment? If not, those in favor, please say "Aye."

8 (All ayes.)

9 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Opposed? Motion  
10 is adopted.

11 Next item, Public Comment. Mr. Cline.

12 MR. CLINE: Good morning again. Two  
13 individuals signed up for public comment. We'll  
14 start with Monica Galloway.

15 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: And our rule  
16 remains in place not to exceed two minutes per  
17 individual.

18 COUNCILWOMAN GALLOWAY: Thank you.  
19 Monica Galloway, representative for City Council.  
20 Thank you for your comment.

21 My concern is as a representative of  
22 the City Council, it is not clear of the role of the  
23 RTAB. To this point we have been told we have no  
24 authority, that the RTAB had the ability to approve  
25 or not approve the Mayor's appointments.

1 I did not support the Mayor's  
2 appointees only because according to the job  
3 description that I got, higher education was a part  
4 of that in which -- and although I support the fact  
5 that they have over 30 years -- one 30 years, one  
6 27, higher -- higher education for this community is  
7 very important. And so for me it's very difficult  
8 to have predecessors that had such education and  
9 then to place someone else into it. So with that in  
10 place, I just wanted to make sure that I said that.

11 Also, I do support the Mayor, but I  
12 will not live under the auspice that if we don't  
13 support the way that things are done, we appear to  
14 be not supporting the Mayor and giving her  
15 everything that she needs to be successful. I do  
16 not support the way that Natasha Henderson's  
17 contract was terminated because of the liability and  
18 the cost on this community, which is great. And I'm  
19 sure you guys are looking at that.

20 All of the appointments that were  
21 shared here today, including the new administration,  
22 including Natasha Henderson's salary, if that salary  
23 and that contract is not appropriately dealt with,  
24 we do have a budget issue. And I do appreciate the  
25 way that the Mayor has stretched our budget. But I

1 do want to go on record as saying that higher  
2 education is very important. And so, I just want to  
3 say that Monica Galloway, Mayor Weaver, I do support  
4 you. But I do you want to be accountable for your  
5 words. There's been a lot of things, the Mayor says  
6 one thing, the Governor says another thing, and so  
7 please just really be transparent with us and we  
8 will support you in any way that we can.

9 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Thank you,  
10 Councilwoman.

11 Before the next person comes up,  
12 Councilwoman raised a question about the RTAB's  
13 role, which we have attempted to answer on previous  
14 occasions without complete success. We have said in  
15 the past that we are not a city council. It's not  
16 our responsibility to run the City day-to-day.  
17 We're not responsible for day-to-day operations. We  
18 don't direct the Council or the Mayor or staff. We  
19 generally respond to actions by city officials, for  
20 example, we approve resolutions of Council.

21 But in an effort to clarify further,  
22 because the majority of an RTAB's responsibility is  
23 spelled out in statute, and I would invite anyone  
24 who has questions, to read Public Act 436 of 2012.  
25 Some of you may refer to it as emergency manager

1 law. Section 23 of that statute spells out what the  
2 duties of an RTAB are.

3 And I'm going to read this into the  
4 record with everyone here in an effort to respond to  
5 Councilwoman's question about what our role is.

6 It says here in Subsection 5, "An RTAB  
7 may do all of the following: Require the local  
8 government to annually convene a consensus revenue  
9 estimating conference for the purpose of arriving at  
10 a consensus estimate of revenues to be available for  
11 the ensuing fiscal year of the local government.

12 B, require the local government to  
13 provide monthly cash flow projections and a  
14 comparison of budgeted revenues and expenditures to  
15 actual revenues and expenditures.

16 C, review proposed and amended budgets  
17 of the local government.

18 D, review requests by the local  
19 government to issue debt.

20 E, review proposed collective  
21 bargaining agreements.

22 F, review compliance by the local  
23 government with a deficit elimination plan submitted  
24 to the Department of Treasury under the State  
25 Revenue Sharing Act.

1 G, review proposed judgment levies  
2 before submission to a court."

3 And then finally, "Perform any other  
4 duties assigned by the Governor at the time the RTAB  
5 is appointed."

6 When this particular RTAB was  
7 appointed the Governor assigned to us one additional  
8 duty, and that was the duty to be able to modify or  
9 amend or change emergency manager orders.

10 So this is the sum total of the  
11 duties, the role, if you will, of what an RTAB is.  
12 Nothing listed here do we have the ability to do.  
13 We don't supercede the Council with regards to  
14 appointments. The position description that we just  
15 approved and the salary for the City Administrator  
16 position. It is for the Mayor and for the Council,  
17 based upon your Charter, to work out who occupies  
18 that position. This issue won't come before us  
19 again unless the Council takes some action by  
20 resolution, in which case the resolution will come  
21 before us. Otherwise, this issue will not appear on  
22 our agenda anymore. It should be resolved by the  
23 elected officials of this City, not by this RTAB,  
24 other than when it comes to our attention on our  
25 agenda because the Council has taken some action.

1                   So that is the sum total of our  
2                   ability and our control. It is fairly limited; it  
3                   is supposed to be. We are supposed to assist city  
4                   officials in transitioning back full local control,  
5                   not to run things day-to-day.

6                   MEMBER FERGUSON: Council member, I  
7                   heard you loud and clear, and I -- I have to answer  
8                   a couple of points, though. While I've been very  
9                   active in education, my degree is in elementary ed  
10                  and I've been Chairman of Michigan State for ten  
11                  years, so I am into education and believe that. But  
12                  also, I'm a person who believes that sometimes  
13                  in-kind, without having -- and especially a number  
14                  of us here in this room, when I look at all of us  
15                  who look like each other, that some of us have  
16                  wonderful in-kind experience that in many cases  
17                  supercedes this education.

18                  And I want to say this, because  
19                  someone who really didn't respect us put handcuffs  
20                  on the City and wrote a contract to lock someone in  
21                  forever, you know, doesn't mean we should use that  
22                  as a reason to keep them around. If we decided that  
23                  we have an election and we elected someone to be  
24                  mayor, besides giving them the tools to operate, we  
25                  can't use a bad contract as an excuse.



1           And so our decisions -- and I'm just  
2 talking to Council, I mean one thing that -- the  
3 list of the things of what our duties are, I guess  
4 one of the things is that sitting here we can't  
5 talk, because I'm just going to tell you how I feel,  
6 you know, and hope that a number of you feel this  
7 way.

8           But as the City Council, you can't say  
9 that you support the Mayor and not give her the  
10 tools to operate. And also use a bad contract as a  
11 reason not to be supportive in moving someone, and  
12 let the courts decide and let someone else decide  
13 what that's going to be. That won't change if you  
14 do or don't. So I just think you should -- you  
15 know, I guess I believe in a bully pulpit. So I'm  
16 just saying that's what I think should happen,  
17 because we now have support of the Mayor and I think  
18 it's your job to support the Mayor by giving her the  
19 tools and let someone else decide if that person  
20 really has standing on this bad contract, because  
21 either way you have to pay. So that's all I can  
22 say. Thank you.

23           CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Mr. Cline.

24           MR. CLINE: Yes. Last individual  
25 today is Eric Mays.

1 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Councilman, you  
2 have two minutes.

3 COUNCILMAN MAYS: Start that clock a  
4 little slow, if you will.

5 First of all, giving honor to the  
6 Almighty God, because we into some times, could use  
7 support and so forth and so on, strength and let  
8 things straighten themselves out.

9 When I look at this RTAB, I must  
10 qualify by saying, you know, if you don't know by  
11 now, I don't agree with emergency manager law, but I  
12 do agree with the individuals sitting here. I know  
13 them. Michael Finney would say he's known me since  
14 I was little, Flint Northern. Michael Townsend, we  
15 know your history and what you did financially for  
16 the City of Flint. Mr. Headen, been communicating  
17 with him for a while. And now the man who kind of  
18 speak like I do, we've got some green and white,  
19 Michigan State, Joel Ferguson. God bless you.

20 The business at hand is this, I don't  
21 know who voted which way not to even talk with the  
22 Mayor, not to go in executive session. I see some  
23 of them sitting here. Wrong vote, Council. In  
24 negotiations we always sit and talk.

25 When you refuse to meet and talk with

1 the Mayor, you making a mistake, and I'm going to  
2 tell on you. But now that you've heard from  
3 somebody, may be smarter than me; we need special  
4 meeting, the Mayor can call a special meeting. Two  
5 Council people or more can call a special meeting.  
6 That's what should happen now, that's where we're  
7 at. I'm looking at 13 ticks on the clock. I said  
8 we needed a special meeting for the RTAB. Keep  
9 calling them. Council, keep meeting, keep talking.  
10 And watch this, God bless you.

11 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Mr. Cline, anyone  
12 further?

13 MR. CLINE: No.

14 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Gentlemen, any  
15 further business before this Board? If not, is  
16 there a motion we adjourn?

17 MEMBER FERGUSON: So move.

18 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Support?

19 MEMBER TOWNSEND: Support.

20 CHAIRPERSON HEADEN: Without  
21 objection, we are adjourned.

22 (Meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.)  
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Quentina Rochelle Snowden, do hereby certify that I have recorded stenographically the proceedings had and public comment taken in the meeting, at the time and place hereinbefore set forth, and I do further certify that the foregoing transcript, consisting of (36) pages, is a true and correct transcript of my said stenographic notes.

Dated: March 3, 2016



Quentina R. Snowden

Quentina R. Snowden, CSR-5519

Notary Public, Genesee County, Michigan

My commission expires: 1/4/2018