

APPROVED - 9/9/15

City of Ecorse

Receivership Transition Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 11, 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

ALSO PRESENT:

CASSANDRA BOOMS
Office of the City Attorney

DREW VAN de GRIFT

Michigan Department of Treasury
Office of Fiscal Responsibility

Reported by:

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Called to order at 9:01 a.m.

MR. KORYZNO: Good morning.

It's one minute after nine, and I'll call the City of Ecorse Receivership Transition Advisory Board meeting to order.

Mr. Van de Grift, roll call?

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Robert Bovitz?

MR. BOVITZ: Here.

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Ed 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 the agenda. Are there any additions to the agenda?

MR. BOVITZ: Move to approve as presented.

MS. PARKER: Support.

MR. BOVITZ: Was there -- was it -- well it's -- that's not on the agenda. That's just the -- when we get to the --

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Just add that to the list.

MR. BOVITZ: Oh, just --

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Yeah, when it comes. I think we're okay.

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MR. KORYZNO: Okay, very good.

All right, it's been moved and supported to approve the agenda as printed.

Any further discussion?

(No response.)

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

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: Motion is approved.

A reminder to the public, if you intend to speak at the public comment portion of the meeting, it's necessary for you to sign the sheet. If your name is not on the list, then unfortunately you will not be recognized.

Item C, approval of RTAB minutes of July 14th, 2015 with noted clarifications.

MS. PARKER: I would move for the approval of the RTAB minutes for July 14th, 2015.

MR. BOVITZ: Support.

MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Parker; supported by Bovitz.

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Discussion?

(No response.)

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

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved.

Next item is old business, consideration of renewal, city controller contract.

The city's continued petition for a new permanent city controller warrants a review of Mr. ~~Sidowski's~~ ^{Sadowski's} contract for service as a city controller. Mr. O'Neal has brought this item before the Board several times; they continue, according to Mr. O'Neal, continue to struggle with financial items, and so it's -- I think it's prudent that the Board reconsider this appointment, and so that's why it's on the agenda this morning.

So it would be necessary for either Ms. Parker or I to make the motion. So I will move to approve awarding the city controller contract to Timothy ~~Sidowski~~ ^{Sadowski}.

MR. BOVITZ: Support.

MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Koryzno; supported by

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Bovitz.

Discussion?

(No response.)

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

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved.

New business, approval of resolutions and ordinances for city council meetings.

Resolutions for regular city council meeting of June 23rd, 2015.

MR. BOVITZ: Move that we accept the resolutions from regular city council meeting of June 23rd, 2015, with the exception of Resolutions 180.15, 182.15, 183.15, 185.15, and 186.15.

MS. PARKER: Support.

MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz; supported by Parker to approve the June 23rd city council meeting minutes with noted exceptions.

Any discussion?

(No response.)

1 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
2 motion say aye.
3 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.
4 MR. KORYZNO: Aye.
5 MS. PARKER: Aye.
6 MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.
7 (No response.)
8 MR. KORYZNO: Motion is approved.
9 Resolution 180.15, inter-local agreement
10 creating the Downriver MADAS division.
11 Mr. O'Neal, could you summarize this matter for
12 the Board, please?
13 MR. O'NEAL: That is the fire -- that's the --
14 Chief, that's -- you're up.
15 (Public Safety Director Moore approaches podium)
16 MR. MOORE: Usually -- good morning.
17 Pretty much --
18 MR. KORYZNO: Good morning.
19 MR. MOORE: Mike Moore, Public Safety Director.
20 Pretty much in a nutshell, what this is, we,
21 right now, have a mutual aid agreement between
22 communities; the surrounding communities, Downriver. What
23 this agreement does is allow this community, or this
24 mutual aid agreement, or this mutual aid body, to have an
25 agreement with other mutual aid agencies.

1 For instance, if we had a large incident, it
2 would allow us to have an agreement, like Downriver would
3 have one with Western Wayne. Right now there's no
4 agreement between other agencies. This would allow us to
5 have an agreement with other agencies, allow us to be
6 covered under insurance, and would allow us to get rules
7 and regulations between agencies statewide, pretty much.

8 MR. KORYZNO: All right, any questions for --

9 MR. BOVITZ: So this goes beyond what mutual aid
10 with Downriver Community Conference offers, then?

11 MR. MOORE: Downriver Community Conference would
12 be included. What happens is, Downriver Community
13 Conference -- we have the Downriver communities that have
14 our mutual aid agreements: say us and Melvindale; us,
15 River Rouge; us, Wyandotte; and so on and so forth.

16 But let's say a plane crashes into U.S. Steel.
17 That's going to get far beyond what we can handle.

18 MR. BOVITZ: All right, so it just goes beyond
19 the Downriver Community Conference?

20 MR. MOORE: Exactly.

21 MR. BOVITZ: Okay.

22 MR. MOORE: That's pretty much what it is.

23 MR. BOVITZ: Okay.

24 MR. MOORE: Because we may need something from
25 western Wayne, we may need something from Monroe County,

1 and that allows everyone to work together; that's pretty
2 much what this is.

3 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

4 I'll entertain a motion.

5 MR. BOVITZ: Move to adopt Resolution 180.15.

6 MS. PARKER: Support.

7 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz; supported by
8 Parker to approve Resolution 180.15.

9 Discussion?

10 (No response.)

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

13 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

14 MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

15 MS. PARKER: Aye.

16 MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.

17 (No response.)

18 MR. KORYZNO: Motion is approved.

19 Next item, Resolution 182.15, MOU between the
20 City of Ecorse and Wayne Metro.

21 Mr. O'Neal?

22 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you Mr. Chairman and members
23 of the Board.

24 This is memorandum of understanding with Wayne
25 Metro. We received the \$2.19 million Distressed Cities

1 Grant for the demolition of houses, and we've entered into
2 an agreement --

3 MS. BOOMS: Hardest Hit.

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

5 MS. BOOMS: Hardest Hit. It's Hardest Hit
6 monies, not Distressed Cities.

7 MR. O'NEAL: Oh, this is the other that -- the
8 other grant where we got ten houses we're going to --
9 tearing down.

10 Anyway, we're -- we've entered into an agreement
11 with them whereby they would take these houses down.

12 MR. KORYZNO: Any questions for Mr. O'Neal from
13 the Board?

14 (No response)

15 MR. KORYZNO: If not, I'll entertain a motion.

16 MS. PARKER: I would move for the approval of
17 Resolution 182.15.

18 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

19 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Parker; supported by
20 Bovitz.

21 Any discussion?

22 (No response.)

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

25 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

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MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.

(No response)

MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved.

Next item, Resolution 183.15, library board appointments.

Mr. O'Neal, have you obtained the proper clearance to appoint these individuals to the library board, and has a director been appointed?

MR. O'NEAL: I guess I'm kind of going to defer to the city attorney, being that it was set up under the state library. And --

MS. BOOMS: Cassandra Booms, city attorney's office.

The city council adopted a series of ordinances to revise their existing ordinances for the library board. Once those ordinances were revised, they had members appointed according to the new ordinances that were adopted, and then that board has met. I'm assuming they've elected a chairman, rules, things of that nature, budget; that's what they've been instructed to do and given information to do. So, I mean, it's pretty standard.

MR. KORYZNO: Any questions for Ms. Booms?

1 (No response)
2 MR. BOVITZ: Move that we adopt Resolution
3 183.15.
4 MS. PARKER: Support.
5 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz; supported by
6 Parker.
7 Any further discussion?
8 (No response.)
9 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the
10 motion say aye?
11 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.
12 MR. KORYZNO: Aye.
13 MS. PARKER: Aye.
14 MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.
15 (No response)
16 MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved.
17 Next item is Resolution 185.15, rezoning
18 ordinance for 4506 West Jefferson.
19 Mr. O'Neal?
20 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you Mr. Chairman.
21 We rezoned a piece of property that was an
22 existing ice cream shop. The zoning did not allow for
23 that to be reopened, so they rezoned the property so they
24 could reopen the ice cream shop. They are under
25 construction, and so we've got some development of a

1 building that wouldn't be used for anything else, would
2 have been still blighted, so, it's a procedural thing.

3 MR. BOVITZ: How was it zoned before?

4 MR. O'NEAL: It's a special -- what the heck's
5 the name of that place down there? Cove --

6 MS. BOOMS: Oh, Frenchman's Cove.

7 MR. O'NEAL: Frenchman's Cove. There's a
8 special zoning for Frenchman's Cove. There's
9 condominiums, and it's right on the very -- it's a corner
10 lot, and they got condominiums next door to it; and, so
11 it's a real odd deal.

12 MS. BOOMS: It also -- Cassandra Booms, city
13 attorney's office.

14 It also fits in with the master plan that
15 they're redoing right now. McKenna was involved in it,
16 and they agreed that rezoning fits in with the new master
17 plan that's being adopted.

18 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

19 I'll entertain a motion.

20 MS. PARKER: I would move for the approval of
21 Resolution 185.15.

22 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

23 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Parker; supported by
24 Bovitz to approve Resolution 185.15.

25 Further discussion?

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(No response.)

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

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.

(No response)

MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 185.5 (sic) is approved.

Next item, Resolution 186.15, budget amendment for 2015-16.

Mr. O'Neal or Mr. Pepperman, could you summarize this matter?

MR. O'NEAL: Yeah, Mr. Pepperman; if you want to come speak to that. I can speak to a little bit, but I'll let Mr. Pepperman do that.

MR. PEPPERMAN: If you could refresh my memory, I believe this is the one where we received revenue, and then want to spend money to offset overtime for the police department as well as the police car? I got the right one?

MR. KORYZNO: I believe that's what you submitted.

MR. PEPPERMAN: Yeah.

1 MR. KORYZNO: Well, Mr. Van de Grift?

2 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Sure, we have some auto
3 revenues, and then we have a offsetting expenditures that
4 appear to be related to the automotive theft.

5 MR. PEPPERMAN: Correct. It's like \$10,000 to
6 purchase an automobile, I believe it's an Impala, and then
7 the remaining I want to say \$25,000, was to offset
8 overtime spent in the police department. This was all as
9 a result of this auto theft program. So what I'm asking
10 for is basically revenue neutral: we're taking money in;
11 we're spending money; offsetting overtime, which reduces
12 the overtime cost; and then this vehicle was an additional
13 vehicle they were going to get, which helps replace some
14 of the vehicles that are overused and need to be replaced
15 within the police department.

16 MR. KORYZNO: I understand the intent, but I'm
17 somewhat confused because once the budget year ends, then
18 the budget is in effect in stone, so to speak, and so to
19 go back retroactively to amend it seems unnecessary.

20 MR. PEPPERMAN: Well, the issue was is when the
21 money was received, which I wasn't aware of it coming in.
22 So once I knew this, and when it came in, which was in
23 June, the timing was such that we couldn't get to you
24 prior to the year end. So I apologize for being late. If
25 ~~I~~ ^{IF I} had known back in May, I would have put this on an

1 earlier agenda to effect, but the actual receipt of the
2 cash happened in last fiscal year. The purchase of the
3 Impala happened in the last fiscal year, we did it against
4 budget that we had, and what I'm looking to do is just
5 increase some revenue, and offset the expenses that are
6 being incurred so that we have a little better budgeting.

7 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

8 I'll defer to my CPA Board member for guidance
9 on this matter.

10 MR. BOVITZ: Well, there's no reason to not
11 adopt it, but I think it's redundant, so.

12 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

13 MR. PEPPERMAN: Okay.

14 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you, Mr. Pepperman.

15 MR. PEPPERMAN: Thank you.

16 MR. KORYZNO: I'll entertain a motion.

17 MR. BOVITZ: I move that we accept the -- adopt
18 Resolution 186.15.

19 MS. PARKER: Support.

20 MR. KORYZNO: Moved and supported to approve
21 Resolution 186.15.

22 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.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.

(No response)

MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 186.15 is approved.

Next item is resolutions from regular city council meeting of July 7th, 2015.

MR. BOVITZ: Move that we approve the resolutions from July 7th, 2015 city council meeting with the exception of Resolutions 194.15, 202.15, 205.15, 206.15, 207.15.

MS. PARKER: Support.

201.15

MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz; supported by Parker.

Any further discussion?

MR. BOVITZ: I'm sorry. I amend that to add 201.15 also.

MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

I assume we will accept that as a friendly amendment.

All right. Seeing no further discussion, all in favor of the motion say aye?

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

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MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.

(No response)

MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved.

First item would be the addition of Resolution 194.15, which is a request for authorizing bids for city attorney services.

Mr. O'Neal, could you provide background on that for us, please?

MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The item that you have on it was not an agenda item. It was an item that was brought up under discussion by the city council. There had been discussion by city council a number of times over the last several months regarding the possibility of seeking bids for a city attorney. I do have that as an agenda item that I put in there. I'm not saying that it's a -- that I agree that we need to go out to bid for a city attorney. What I'm -- I have my own issues; I think I've discussed that with Mr. Van de Grift.

In reference to this, I think it's good that from time to time you do seek bids for professional services to see what the market might bear. I know there's concerns as to the amount of moneys that been billed to the city from the city council relative for

1 services from Wycoff's firm.

2 I don't think it's a bad idea to go out to bid
3 for professional services on occasion, just like we did
4 for UHY, for Plante Moran, any of those things. I know
5 that you have passed your order; we can wait, talk about
6 that at the next time if you want, Mr. Chairman, but
7 relative to this, this was brought up under new business.
8 Now if you want to defer and wait, talk about it as an
9 agenda item; I'll defer to you.

10 MR. KORYZNO: All right. I'd just as soon
11 discuss it at this point if that's consistent with the
12 Board?

13 MS. PARKER: Yeah. Uh-huh.

14 MR. O'NEAL: Okay, that's fine then.

15 MS. PARKER: Uh-huh.

16 MR. O'NEAL: I'll continue.

17 MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you.

18 MR. O'NEAL: I have concerns relative to Mr.
19 Wycoff and some comments that were made relative to
20 employees and seeking advice. I'll just leave that there.

21 I don't think it's a bad idea to seek bids. I
22 did contact Mr. Wycoff's office relative to getting a
23 monthly retainer. I was -- I had a -- an amount was
24 brought back; it wasn't in writing. I requested it in
25 writing; I didn't get it. And I think what was brought

1 forward was ridiculous. I didn't even relay that on to my
2 city council because I think it would have infuriated them
3 at what they came back with; that's my opinion. Again, I
4 don't think it's a bad idea from time to time.

5 I've stated this on several occasions, I'll
6 state it right here: I do not have any problem with
7 Cassandra Booms at all; my problem is with Chuck Wycoff.

8 That said, I think that when you look at the
9 bigger scheme of the thing, if we're not allowed to even
10 go out to bid for professional services, what control do
11 we have at the local level?

12 I understand what the RTAB Board is trying to do
13 relative to appointments and background and skills and all
14 that stuff. But if we're not allowed to take a look at
15 this from time to time, how do you control your
16 consultants?

17 Now that's a philosophical and a -- business
18 ideas that I have in my head.

19 Now I put it right on the table where I stand
20 relative to Mr. Wycoff and his firm, and Ms. Booms, and I
21 -- and Cassandra will tell you I've told her exactly what
22 I'm telling you.

23 So, that said, even though that was brought up -
24 - now, I will tell you that I -- I brought back to the
25 city council, and I can't remember if I was -- the first

1 time, Mr. Ewen? That there was concerns about the cost of
2 Mr. Wycoff, and I brought it back about going out to bid,
3 and it fell on deaf ears. But now it was brought back up
4 again. There is concern there relative about the cost to
5 the city and about lowering the cost and doing something
6 on a monthly retainer.

7 So, while the council may have brought this up
8 under their new business, I'm not against it. I think
9 that from time to time, Mr. Koryzno and Ms. Parker, I
10 don't know, Mr. Bovitz, I'm sure you've been in cities
11 where you get a change of heart and people want to take a
12 look, and -- elsewhere. And I think that's where we're at
13 here. As a council.

14 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

15 Any questions for Mr. O'Neal?

16 I have two comments. One, I totally agree that
17 it's proper to go out and test the market for attorney
18 services. But in this case, I'm a little concerned
19 because then it's an election year, and normally that
20 would take place after the new council is seated. And so
21 it seems to me that it would be premature at this point.

22 And the second point I have is that you have a
23 long list of items that you've been discussing with
24 Treasury, and I think those need to be focused on.

25 MR. O'NEAL: And that's fine. That's fine. If

1 you feel it's incumbent upon us to wait until after the
2 election, I'm good. I'll relay that to the mayor and the
3 council when we talk in a couple, three months, as you
4 indicated, and we'll talk about the list. We've got our
5 plate full right now, anyway.

6 MR. BOVITZ: And my comment is, it's hard enough
7 when we've got to -- we're asked to submit a bid for an
8 audit service or an accounting service, because you're
9 actually engaging in a relationship, not a product. It's
10 not like playing a golf outing and say, "What are you
11 going to charge me for a steak?"

12 MR. O'NEAL: Right.

13 MR. BOVITZ: And so the level of service that
14 you're given is more relationship, and I think that it
15 goes beyond just the standard invoicing of what you're
16 getting.

17 MR. O'NEAL: Right.

18 MR. BOVITZ: And so I'm -- I don't know how you
19 actually put out bids in your experience, and with other
20 cities, to put out a bid for a city attorney. It's -- I'm
21 sure the parameters that Wycoff's been engaged in the last
22 couple years has gone beyond what his normal relationship
23 would be, so.

24 MR. O'NEAL: And I -- well, let me put the cards
25 out on the table because we're big kids here.

1 Typically, when you go out to bid for a city
2 attorney or an auditor or something like that, people know
3 what they bid. They know what they -- the first thing
4 they do is they call me, "How much are you paying them?"
5 And they're going to undercut them.

6 MR. BOVITZ: Right.

7 MR. O'NEAL: And I -- I understand that.

8 So when I look at attorney bids, or I look at
9 auditor bids or whatever I look at, I just don't look at
10 the bottom line. That's -- especially in that bailiwick
11 of -- that's not that -- believe me, that -- I don't look
12 at the bottom line, because you get what you pay for.
13 Especially in that area. So that said, we'll wait.

14 MR. BOVITZ: Move that we deny Resolution
15 194.15.

16 MS. PARKER: Support.

17 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz; supported by
18 Parker.

19 Any further discussion?

20 (No response.)

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

23 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

24 MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

25 MS. PARKER: Aye.

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MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.

(No response)

MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved.

Next item is Resolution --

MR. VAN DE GRIFF: Pardon me. Motion was denied.

MR. KORYZNO: Denied. I'm sorry. Motion was denied.

Thank you, Mr. Van de Griff.

Next item is Resolution 201.15 and 202.15, tax season resolutions.

Mr. Van de Griff, can you summarize this item for us?

MR. VAN DE GRIFF: Sure. Very briefly, the two resolutions: 201.15 provided for a waiver of the three quarter of one percent penalty ordinarily arrayed against late tax payments only for the elderly citizens; resolution two point -- 202.15 purported to waive any tax liability of \$2 or less.

The only concern Treasury staff voiced when looking at these, we want to make sure that citizens are treated equally when it comes to taxes, and if it's proper; make sure that the city ensures that.

MR. KORYZNO: All right.

Any questions on this resolution?

1 MS. PARKER: I would move for the approval of
2 Resolution 201.15, 202.15.

3 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

4 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Parker; supported by
5 Bovitz.

6 Any further discussion?

7 MR. BOVITZ: As long as the legality is fine,
8 that we can discriminate in certain -- certain individuals
9 are waived and others aren't? Is that?

10 MS. BOOMS: Cassandra Booms, city attorney's
11 office.

12 I can tell you that no legal opinion was
13 requested regarding this issue. I will not give a legal
14 opinion in open session regarding the issue. That being
15 said, the city has done this in the past.

16 MR. BOVITZ: I just don't know if, you know,
17 citizens could resent the fact that they were, that they
18 fell on a hard times and their fees aren't waived, and --
19 just because it's an age based.

20 MS. BOOMS: Well, I can't say that I disagree
21 with you, but, you know.

22 MR. BOVITZ: I know.

23 MS. BOOMS: Like I said, I'm not going to give a
24 legal opinion --

25 MR. BOVITZ: Sure.

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MS. BOOMS: -- in open session; one wasn't requested.

MR. KORYZNO: How long has this been in effect?

MS. BOOMS: I believe the city administrator would know more than me.

MR. KORYZNO: A number of years?

MR. O'NEAL: A number, yes.

MR. KORYZNO: All right.

MS. BOOMS: These are resolutions that were brought up in the past and we basically cut and paste. Well, from my understanding from what I personally have seen.

MR. O'NEAL: Right. That's correct. That's correct. It's just something that comes up every year, and we just --

MR. BOVITZ: So if certain individuals wanted to petition the city hall to say, "Well, maybe I should have my fees waived," is that a discretionary thing?

MS. BOOMS: A citizen can always come to the council and ask for fees, taxes, what -- water, whatever it is, and have it waived or addressed in some issue. Citizens can always go to tax tribunal if they believe there's a particular issue. There are certainly ways to address their concerns if a citizen were to have a concern.

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MR. BOVITZ: But this is an automatic waiver based on age?

MS. BOOMS: That the council took, correct.

MR. BOVITZ: Okay. So they've foregone any hope of collecting these late fees? Okay.

MS. BOOMS: I can't answer that.

MR. BOVITZ: All right.

MS. BOOMS: You know, I don't know how it originated. I have no idea. I've certainly seen in other municipalities that charters had different rates for seniors, you know. Whether or not those are still applied, it's certainly a concept that has been out there for a long time.

MR. BOVITZ: Okay.

MR. KORYZNO: Any further questions or discussion?

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: If not, all in favor of the motion say aye.

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.

(No response)

MR. KORYZNO: Resolutions 201.15 and 202.15 are

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approved.

Next, Resolution 203.15 and Resolution 207.15, ambulatory service contract.

Mr. O'Neal?

MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

We currently have a contract with Health Link, and we are getting out of that contract and bringing the services of Rapid Response. There's no cost to the city. We're looking at the possibility of having Health Link operate one of our bays and they're paying some rent for that and to generate some revenues from that.

It's a, we think it's the right way to go. The set was recommended by Mr. Moore; he has knowledge with reference to the people with Rapid Response. I have met with them on a number of occasions; got every confidence that they can do it; and that's just where we're going.

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

If not, I'll entertain a motion.

MR. BOVITZ: Move to approve Resolution 203.15.

MS. PARKER: Support.

MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz; supported by Parker to approve Resolution 203.15.

Any further discussion?

(No response)

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

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motion say aye.

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.

(No response)

MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 203.15 is approved.

I'll entertain a motion for Resolution 207.15.

MR. BOVITZ: Move to approve Resolution 207.15.

MS. PARKER: Support.

MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz; supported by
Parker.

Any discussion?

(No response.)

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

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign.

(No response)

MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 207.15 is approved.

Next item is Resolution 205.15, resolution
regarding the approval of amended articles of
incorporation of the Downriver Utility Wastewater

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Authority.

Mr. O'Neal?

MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

We're just at -- the articles of incorporation are to add Lincoln Park to the group. And that's basically what we're doing.

MS. PARKER: Just a question: is there any objection from any of the other communities?

MR. O'NEAL: No, they're already in. They've already voted the -- after this, voted them to have them come in.

MR. BOVITZ: So the 13 communities listed are already on board?

MR. O'NEAL: Yes. There was no objection at all. They were happy to have -- the more, the better.

MR. KORYZNO: Any reason why Lincoln Park had not been in it, that you're aware of?

MR. O'NEAL: I have no idea why they -- we made them pay the \$3,000 initiation fee that all the other communities paid many years ago, but.

MR. BOVITZ: But the Downriver communities like Trenton, Gross Ile, are they a different system?

MR. O'NEAL: Yes.

MR. BOVITZ: Because I see Dearborn Heights and Belleville; that's not considered Downriver.

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MS. BOOMS: Cassandra Booms, city attorney's office.

The cities that are listed here are part of the sewage treatment system. Those are all of the cities that it services; they're all in it.

When this Board was created to work with Wayne County, Lincoln Park didn't want to opt into it, didn't want to pay, didn't think it was necessary that there was this additional committee to help with the sewage authority.

Things are now changing. There's a lot going on with Wayne County with what's going to happen with the future of the system, and Lincoln Park has now decided to join to see if it's going to affect them.

MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

MS. PARKER: I would move for the approval of Resolution 205.15.

MR. BOVITZ: Support.

MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Parker; supported by Bovitz to approve Resolution 205.15.

Any further discussion?

MR. BOVITZ: No.

(No response.)

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

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MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: All opposed, same sign.

(No response)

MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 205.15 is approved.

Next item, Resolution 206.15, resolution for the continuation of Downriver Wastewater Treatment System joint management committee.

Mr. O'Neal?

MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

This was started in 1962. There has been some extensions to keeping this thing going. This here approves to have this thing going until December 31st, 2015, until such time as we can decide how we're going to transfer the assets of the system. And there's, again, there's a whole plate full relative to this. So this is administerial in nature.

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

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: If not, I'll entertain a motion.

MR. BOVITZ: Move that we adopt Resolution 206.15.

MS. PARKER: Support.

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MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz; supported by Parker.

Any further discussion?
(No response.)

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

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.
MR. KORYZNO: Aye.
MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: All opposed, same sign.
(No response)

MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 206.15 is approved.
Next item is claims and accounts from regular city council meeting draft minutes of July 21st, 2015.
I'll entertain a motion.

MR. BOVITZ: Move that we accept the claims and accounts of the July 21st, 2015 city council meeting.

MS. PARKER: Support.

MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz; supported by Parker.

Any discussion on this item?
(No response)

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

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

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MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

(No response)

MR. KORYZNO: The claims and accounts from regular city council meeting draft minutes of July 21st, 2015 are approved.

Item B, city administrator items.

Item one, city council minutes were addressed in new business.

Item two, budget to actual report, month ending June 30, 2015. I'll entertain a motion to approve the budget to the actual report.

MS. PARKER: I would move for the approval of the budget to actual report.

MR. BOVITZ: Support.

MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Parker; supported by Bovitz.

Does the Board have any discussion on this item?

MR. BOVITZ: Well, this is the 12 month, and before any year-end adjustments, and it -- when's the audit scheduled?

MR. PEPPERMAN: Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

The audit schedule is going to be set this Thursday; I'm talking with Brenda DeMott from Rehmann Robson to discuss when exactly we're going to be

1 performing the audit, when the fieldwork will occur. So I
2 don't have a definitive answer for you at this point in
3 time, but I should by Thursday afternoon after my.

4 MR. BOVITZ: And this budget, does this include
5 the amended budget that was approved at the city council
6 meeting?

7 MR. PEPPERMAN: Yes, it should.

8 MR. BOVITZ: Okay. Because they got this,
9 comparatively speaking, it looks like the bottom line is
10 in excess of what the budget was. A surplus. But that's
11 before any year-end adjustments?

12 MR. PEPPERMAN: Correct.

13 Anything else, ladies and gentlemen?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. PEPPERMAN: Thank you.

16 MR. BOVITZ: I hope the numbers stay.

17 MR. PEPPERMAN: So do I.

18 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you, Mr. Pepperman.

19 Any further discussion?

20 MR. BOVITZ: No.

21 MR. KORYZNO: Okay, all in favor of the motion
22 say aye.

23 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

24 MS. PARKER: Aye.

25 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

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(No response)

MR. KORYZNO: The budget to actual report for month ending June 30, 2015 is approved.

Item three, rezoning ordinance for 4506 West Jefferson was addressed in new business.

Item four, budget amendment for 2015/16 was addressed in new business.

Item five, tax season resolutions also addressed in new business.

Item six, termination of ambulance service contract, addressed in new business.

Item seven, Rapid Response professional services contract was addressed in new business.

Item eight, amended articles of incorporation of the Downriver Utility Wastewater Authority was addressed in new business.

Item nine, city attorney services bid, was addressed in new business.

Item ten, hiring of treasury clerk.

Mr. O'Neal?

MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

We kind of put the cart before the horse just a little bit, so I know that we need your permission to hire anybody, but what we did is we advertised on the MML website, because this is an AFSCME position. You've seen

1 it before, so we kind of need your blessing to move
2 forward.

3 We'll do it according to the contract, \$11.50 an
4 hour -- or \$10.50 an hour, whatever the entry level is,
5 and we'll just -- replacing the individual. They lost
6 their position. Correct.

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

8 (No response.)

9 MR. KORYZNO: I'll entertain a motion.

10 MS. PARKER: I would move for the approval of
11 the request to hire the treasury clerk.

12 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

13 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Parker; supported by
14 Bovitz.

15 Any further discussion?

16 (No response)

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

19 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

20 MS. PARKER: Aye.

21 MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

22 Opposed same sign.

23 (No response)

24 MR. KORYZNO: The hiring of the treasury clerk
25 is approved.

1 Item 11, termination of part time DPW employee.
2 Mr. O'Neal, can you assure the Board that this
3 termination is proper, and that legal counsel has been
4 duly consulted?

5 MR. O'NEAL: I'm going to turn that over to the
6 city.

7 MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you.

8 MS. BOOMS: Cassandra Booms, city attorney. Mr.
9 O'Neal said that I can go ahead and answer this.

10 Yes, the termination was addressed with the
11 legal department. We drafted the termination letter, went
12 through the process with them, and are moving forward.

13 MR. KORYZNO: Any questions for Ms. Booms from
14 the Board?

15 MR. BOVITZ: One question, because last month we
16 had a similar situation. Were the employees addressed
17 personally, or was it -- did they just find out when they
18 received a letter that they were terminated?

19 MS. BOOMS: I believe in both cases the
20 employees were -- indicated that they were terminated and
21 letters immediately followed.

22 Is that correct, Mr. O'Neal?

23 MR. O'NEAL: Yes.

24 MR. BOVITZ: So a letter followed up what they
25 already knew, then; it wasn't -- didn't come as a

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surprise?

MS. BOOMS: No, it wasn't -- well, I don't know if they were surprised or not. But as soon as it -- sometimes when a -- when that situation arises, the individual needs to be removed immediately, and so you can't prepare with a letter in advance.

And that's what both of these cases were. The individuals -- it needed to be addressed immediately; it was. Mr. O'Neal immediately called me; we followed up with all the paperwork, you know, review, and finalized it.

MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

I'll entertain a motion.

MR. BOVITZ: Move that we accept the termination of part time DPW employee.

MS. PARKER: Support.

MR. KORYZNO: Moved and supported.

Any further discussion?

(No response)

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

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

(No response)

MR. KORYZNO: Termination of the part time DPW

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employee is approved.

Item 12, MOU between Wayne County Metro and City of Ecorse was addressed in new business.

Item 13, library board appointments, addressed in new business.

Item 14, Downriver Wastewater Treatment system, JMC, addressed in new business.

And then finally, item 15, checks released, is for information only.

Next item is city administrator report.

Mr. O'Neal?

MR. O'NEAL: Thank you Mr. Chairman, members of the Board.

I'm in receipt of the communication from Wayne Workman we received last night. I want to thank the RTAB Board and the state treasury department for their help in this matter; it's going to go a long way with the elected officials and the appointed officials, relative to the support that we are receiving.

We look forward to moving forward with not only the items that are within this letter, but the items in the review that the RTAB did last August, I believe a year ago August. And I understand that you're going to put off review of what we've done so far this year so that we can implement the five year plan; the business plan and those

1 other items that we have. And again, we appreciate
2 everything that you're doing, and we all look forward to
3 working closer with us in the future.

4 And I talked with Patrick today, and I will be
5 talking with him, and of course I bother him at lunch and
6 on Sundays, but you shouldn't have given me your cellphone
7 number, but that's all good.

8 I will tell you that while we don't take any
9 glee in terminations, you haven't seen the last of them.
10 I terminated a contractor yesterday. Well, we continue to
11 talk with them; it's been -- a contractor that's been
12 there for a number of years.

13 I've got an ongoing investigations going on by
14 and through Mr. Moore's office and other levels, and you
15 haven't seen the end of that.

16 There are things that have gone on in the past
17 in Ecorse that we're not putting up with. With the mayor
18 and the council don't want anything to do with it; I
19 certainly don't want anything to do with it. And as I run
20 across these things, we're approaching them just like you
21 would if you were the city administrator. And with that,
22 it's all I've got to say.

23 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

24 Any questions for Mr. O'Neal from the Board?

25 (No response)

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MR. KORYZNO: All right, next item is public comment.

Mr. Van de Grift will be the timekeeper. You will have two minutes, per Board rules, to provide your comments to the Board. And when your name is called by Mr. Van de Grift, please approach the podium.

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Councilman Elem.

COUNCILMAN ELEM: My question was answered already by the RTAB. It was in regard to the attorney, and according to the charter there's like four different positions for the new administration, when they come in. So, and the attorney and engineers, two of those positions.

MR. KORYZNO: Okay, thank you.

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Ms. Walker-Keith.

MS. WALKER-KEITH: Good morning.

My question is to the --

MR. KORYZNO: Could you please approach the podium?

Thank you.

MS. WALKER-KEITH: My question is the vision of Ecorse. Ms. Parker was here I guess a couple years ago when we had the data and the plans, and it just disappeared, and I want to find out what's going with it; are we going to start it back up, or is it a dead issue?

1 MR. KORYZNO: All right, well, this is the time
2 for the public to speak, and we'll -- during Board
3 comments --

4 MS. WALKER-KEITH: Oh, okay.

5 MR. KORYZNO: -- we'll respond to any questions
6 you may have.

7 MS. WALKER-KEITH: And the other question is the
8 power to the council and mayor.

9 MR. KORYZNO: I'm sorry?

10 MS. WALKER-KEITH: Power back -- when will the
11 council and mayor receive power?

12 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

13 MS. WALKER-KEITH: Thank you.

14 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

15 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: That concludes public
16 comment.

17 MR. KORYZNO: Board comments.

18 The five year financial plan has been submitted.
19 The city's working with Treasury to review this plan in
20 anticipation of a formal report to the Board.

21 And the following item has been tabled and no
22 further action will be taken until the five year budget
23 has been reviewed: Resolution 357.14, budget amendment
24 2015-5, body camera purchase.

25 In terms of the questions from the public, the

1 vision for Ecorse, ma'am, is really something that would
2 be handled at the local level. What the Board's
3 responsibilities are is to review actions by the city
4 council, and if they're consistent with what the Board
5 feels is desirable for the city to remain financially
6 sustainable, then we approve them; if not, then that's
7 where you'll see the occasional denial.

8 So I would ask that you contact Mr. O'Neal or
9 council members about where the status -- what the status
10 of the vision for Ecorse is.

11 And in response -- Ms. Parker?

12 MS. PARKER: I just have a comment after you're
13 done.

14 MR. KORYZNO: Okay, then, and in response to
15 your question about when power would be fully restored
16 back to the mayor and city council, that would be done --
17 that's a decision that rests solely with Governor Snyder.
18 And so, at, annually an evaluation takes place, and then
19 that's shared with the governor, the state senator for
20 your district, and the state representatives, as well as
21 the city council. And so I would assume that if the city
22 continues to progress on a positive note and has a
23 favorable evaluation, that that would contribute to
24 reaching that status of full power being restored.

25 Ms. Parker?

1 MS. PARKER: Yes. Is it Mrs. Keith?

2 MS. WALKER-KEITH: Yes, ma'am.

3 MS. PARKER: In reference to envision Ecorse
4 that the chairperson had mentioned, it's clearly up to the
5 mayor and city council to move forward with that plan, but
6 I certainly think it's very warranted. It was a plan that
7 was developed with the community, and certainly I think --
8 I would encourage you to touch base with the city about
9 the implementation and the status of the plan.

10 And then I have a couple of other questions, one
11 for the city attorney, regarding O'Brien's. I just
12 wondered what the status is?

13 MS. BOOMS: Cassandra Booms, city attorney's
14 office. I'm looking for Terry.

15 Last I knew was we were waiting for the owner to
16 select his contractor, come in, and work on
17 preconstruction meeting with the city engineers. And then
18 I believe there was an issue with permits regarding the
19 underground work. That's the last I know.

20 Anybody else has anything to add?

21 MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: They did start the -- the
22 underground work. They've got all the cement, the
23 sewerage; they're starting with that.

24 MS. BOOMS: Yeah, I knew they were getting the
25 permits and they were looking at the weather to get in and

1 do that.

2 MS. PARKER: Okay.

3 MS. BOOMS: That's the last I had.

4 MR. O'NEAL: We have been working closely with
5 O'Brien's and Mr. Garmo and his representatives to make
6 sure that all the necessary permitting has been
7 effectuated and that the proper materials -- where we're
8 at now is that the proper materials be delivered onsite.

9 Prior to the materials being delivered onsite,
10 they're required to have cut sheets from the company that
11 is providing the materials, and the materials all have to
12 be American made, and we're reviewing that. There was
13 supposed to be somebody onsite this week and they weren't,
14 and they were notified, so they will be charged extra fees
15 because the onsite inspector was there. They are not
16 living up to their expectations, and they know exactly
17 what they're supposed to do, when they're supposed to do
18 it, and how they're supposed to do it. It's all entirely
19 up to Mr. Garmo and his representative to follow the
20 procedures.

21 So we've walked them hand in hand through all
22 the proper procedures to get the rezoning, the easement
23 vacations, all of the problems that were associated with
24 what they were trying to do in the first place; that's
25 behind them. Now it's up to them to go forward and do it

1 in proper fashion, and they are -- we're missing not doing
2 all the things that they need to do. And I'm using my
3 words carefully.

4 MS. BOOMS: The city has been there at every
5 step of the way, making themselves -- the building
6 department, the engineers, the building official --
7 available at all steps, but we can only meet them halfway.
8 We can't actually do the work for them. We can't select
9 the contract -- contractor for them, those types of
10 things, so.

11 I know that this -- a huge priority for the
12 city, and the city is certainly not letting it slide, but
13 we're only one-half the equation.

14 MS. PARKER: And then one other question, just
15 in reference to the discussions with the City of River
16 Rouge, related to fire services, is there an update from
17 anyone?

18 MR. O'NEAL: Mr. Chairman and Ms. Parker,
19 members of the Board, you might want to talk to Pat after
20 the meeting. I have a one one-on-one, I've had a candid
21 conversation relative to meetings with Mr. Bauer and River
22 Rouge, and I think that might be prudent to do that. I
23 met with him, I've called him, Mr. Bauer; I'll meet with
24 him again on Thursday morning when I have a DUA meeting.
25 He sits right next to me. Chief Moore and I met with him

1 last week, I mean -- I can lead a horse to water.
2 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.
3 MS. PARKER: That's all I have.
4 MR. KORYZNO: Mr. Bovitz, any comments?
5 (No response.)
6 MR. KORYZNO: If not, I'll entertain a motion to
7 adjourn.
8 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.
9 MS. PARKER: Support.
10 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz; supported by
11 Parker.
12 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: The meeting is adjourned at 9:46
18 a.m., thank you for coming.
19 (Meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.)
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STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF WASHTENAW).ss

I certify that this transcript is a complete, true, and correct transcript to the best of my ability of the RTAB meeting held on August 11, 2015, City of Ecorse. I also certify that I am not a relative or employee of the parties involved and have no financial interest in this case.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: August 16, 2015,

s/ Amy Shankleton-Novess

Amy Shankleton-Novess (CER 0838)
Certified Electronic Reporter