approved 7-14-15

City of Ecorse

Receivership Transition Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 9, 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:
Nina Lunsford (CER 4539)
Modern Court Reporting & Video, LLC
SCAO FIRM NO. 08228
101-A North Lewis Street
Saline, Michigan 48176
(734) 429-9143/krs

1 **Called to order at 9:02 a.m.**

2 MR. KORYZNO: It's 9:02 a.m., and I'll call the

3 City of Ecorse Receivership Transition Advisory Board meeting

4 to order. Roll call, Mr. Van de Grift?

5 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Robert Bovitz?

6 MR. BOVITZ: Here.

7 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Edward Koryzno?

8 MR. KORYZNO: Here.

9 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Joyce Parker.

10 MS. PARKER: Here.

11 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: All present.

12 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

13 Next item is approval of agenda.

14 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

15 MS. PARKER: Support.

16 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz, supported by

17 Parker to approve the agenda.

18 Any discussion?

19 (No response.)

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

21 motion say Aye.

22 MS. PARKER: Aye.

23 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

24 MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

25 Opposed, same sign?

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: The agenda is approved as printed.

Also a reminder to the public that if you intend to speak at the public comment portion of the meeting, it would be necessary for you to sign the sheet at the podium. If you do not sign up, you will not be recognized.

Next item is approval of RTAB minutes of May 12, 2015 with noted clarifications.

MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

MS. PARKER: Support.

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

Discussion?

(No response.)

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

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: Opposed, same sign?

The minutes are approved.

Old business. First item, five year budget. Mr. O'Neal, you had committed to a June submission of the council approved five year budget. Do you have an update for

us?

MR. O'NEAL: I'll just tell you, we're working on it.

MR. KORYZNO: Okay.

MR. O'NEAL: We're working on it.

I have the five year budget. Mr. Pepperman gave it to me on a thumb drive, the beginnings of it, and I'm looking at it. I've got some concerns relative to some transfers within the various departments. I've got some concerns relative to PPT. I've got concerns relative to what the tax rates are going to be. Also I've got some concerns of the CDBG monies. I've got some concerns now. I know that budget documents are a living document as Joyce had indicated before, but if we were to have put that budget together before I'd have been two-and-a-half million dollars off.

I want to get it as close as possible because I want that to be used as a score card. I want it to be used as a plan of attack for moving Ecorse out of receivership, and, if we can't move it out of receivership, well then we'll know that.

Also, I don't know if you know that we've been working with Mr. Bowdler down in River Rouge relative to the fire department. We've had subsequent meetings with Mr. Bowdler down there, and I believe that we are to the point where we can have the city attorney draft a local agreement so

1 that we can move forward with that.
2 It's a win/win for everybody, and part of my
3 plan for the five year budget is do a lot more of that, either
4 with River Rouge, Lincoln Park, whoever, but in order for us
5 to move out of this, we have got to have in our local
6 agreements and have joint workings with the distressed cities
7 around us. I believe that's the only way we're going to be
8 able to pull ourselves out of it.
9 MR. KORYZNO: So do you think you'll have the
10 five year budget completed in July?
11 MR. O'NEAL: I hope to have it to the council --
12 there shouldn't be any reason -- I'll have a budget to you.
13 I'll have a budget to you, if not approved by the council in
14 their minutes, I hope to have it to you for your July board
15 meeting.
16 MR. KORYZNO: I --
17 MR. O'NEAL: You'll have it. Whether or not
18 it's been approved --
19 MR. KORYZNO: Yeah --
20 MR. O'NEAL: -- or not --
21 MR. KORYZNO: Well, our preference would be to
22 have it approved by city council before it comes to the RTAB.
23 MR. O'NEAL: Well, I mean, they'll have it
24 approved but they might not have the minutes is what I'm
25 trying to say.

MR. KORYZNO: Oh, I see.

MR. O'NEAL: Because of the timing.

MR. KORYZNO: Okay.

MR. O'NEAL: Okay.

MR. KORYZNO: Very good.

Any questions for Mr. O'Neal from the board members?

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you.

Next item is Resolution 103.15, fire department special assessment. Mr. Van de Grift, could you provide an update for the board, please?

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Yes. This resolution to adopt a PA 33 fire special assessment was reviewed last month. No action was taken. The City had communicated that it was going to revisit the special assessment amount at the city council meeting later that evening. No changes ~~has~~ have happened with the fire special assessment, and so it is on the agenda for old business. It is for 4.8261 mills to finance or to, rather to provide revenue for the operations of the fire department. The, you know, the board had expressed some concerns about the adoption for these specials. Joyce Parker had requested an opinion from the city relative to the adoption of and the procedures for the special assessment. The city declined to provide it citing an attorney/client

privilege.

MR. KORYZNO: Any questions from the board members?

MS. PARKER: Certainly I have a comment.

MR. KORYZNO: Okay, certainly.

MS. PARKER: I did notice that the mayor and the city council did approve the special assessment for police and fire. Again, if, you know, if it's in the budget and it's approved and it's legal, I'm fine with it, but at this point I do not have the information indicating that the process has been handled properly. So it's difficult for me to move forward without the information. And specifically the concern I have is whether the residents have been notified in writing regarding the increase in the assessment amount based on what took place maybe three or four years ago.

MS. BOOMS: Cassandra Booms from the Office of the City Attorney. May I respond?

MR. KORYZNO: Yes.

MS. BOOMS: All right. First, for the police and fire assessment, notice was provided as the statute requires. Secondly, regards to whether or not the action the city was taken, all actions that a council takes are presumed to be valid until otherwise challenged. I mean, that's the same with the open meetings act. Everything the council does, whether it be an open or closed session, is

1 presumed to be valid until someone challenges it and it's
2 proven otherwise; that's the position of the city. It has
3 complied with the statute and actions are presumed to be
4 valid.
5 MS. PARKER: So as part of the requirements
6 under the statute, is it required to provide a notice, a
7 written notice to residents here in Ecorse?
8 MS. BOOMS: For PA 33, which is the police and
9 fire assessments it only requires publication, and there are
10 specific publication requirements. First, you have to comply
11 with open meetings act; also, you either have to publish in
12 the newspaper or publish via posting if you're not going to
13 put it in a newspaper. And from what I understand, it was
14 both posted and in a newspaper, and that's what the face of
15 the statute requires.
16 MS. PARKER: Okay, so are we talking about the
17 process to establish the special assessment, whether it's with
18 the police, fire under PA 33 or for lighting, as a new
19 assessment you don't necessarily have to send a notice to
20 residents?
21 MS. BOOMS: The lighting assessment followed the
22 requirements of the city charter. The police and fire
23 followed the requirements of Act 33 and the face of the
24 statute requires that the meeting be published. Now, there
25 are certain elements of that notice, there's going to be an

assessment, what's going to be assessed, what's it for, who is going to be assessed, those types of things, and the city was instructed to follow the notice requirements provided in that statute when they originally held the meetings.

MR. KORYZNO: Any other questions for Ms. Booms?

MR. BOVITZ: At the open meeting it was basically just information because the people don't have a vote, it's just -- it was just to tell them how much to expect on the next tax bill. Was there an average amount that they could get a guide for?

MS. BOOMS: I'm sorry?

MR. BOVITZ: How much the additional millage would be in real dollars to the average homeowner?

MS. BOOMS: I can't speak personally to that because I didn't actually attend the public hearing. Another, Esly Williams, another attorney that's of counsel with my office, does all of the meetings. But it's my understanding that the assessment to -- the total assessment the city was seeking, the total amount for the departments was provided to the public and it was broken down for what kind of mills it was going to be.

And, Mr. Bovitz, you started to kind of touch on something else. If every single resident were to show up and object to the special assessment, the city could still go ahead and asses it anyways.

MR. BOVITZ: Correct. Just the information.

MS. BOOMS: Right.

MR. BOVITZ: But that's, I think that was Joyce's concern was, you know, was it communicated properly, and in this case it was, you know, the people don't really have a vote on it, but I just want to make sure that they understand the impact and what it's going to cost in real dollars.

MS. BOOMS: Well, and they could have a vote on it if there was a certain number of individuals that petitioned and it could be converted into a vote, but that didn't occur either.

MS. PARKER: And that's the reason why I was asking the question because when we initially -- when I was here as the emergency manager and we initially established the special assessment for police and fire, we received a legal opinion from Miller Canfield indicating the steps that are required in order to do that, and part of that process was notification in writing to the residents, those that will be actually impacted by the change.

MS. BOOMS: There is an attorney general opinion regarding notice per address. Attorney general opinions are not binding on the city.

MS. PARKER: Okay.

MR. O'NEAL: If I may, Mr. Koryzno and members

of the board?

MR. KORYZNO: Certainly.

MR. O'NEAL: There are res~~ident~~ residents here that were at the public hearing as well, and the question was arose, "How much will this cost to each resident?" And we did indicate that on an average home in Ecorse what that amount would be, and the difference in the cost increase how much that would be for the average home in Ecorse, and they were told that.

MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

Any other questions from the board?

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: All right, thanks.

MS. BOOMS: Thank you.

MR. KORYZNO: I'll entertain a motion.

MR. BOVITZ: I move that we approve Resolution 103.15, the fire department special assessment.

MS. PARKER: Support.

MR. KORYZNO: Move by Bovitz, supported by Parker to approve Resolution 103.15, the fire department special assessment.

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: The motion's approved.

The next item is new business: approval of resolutions and ordinances for city council meetings. Item one, resolutions from regular city council meeting of April 28, 2015. I'll entertain a motion.

MS. PARKER: So moved.

MR. BOVITZ: Is this with the exception of 123 --

MR. KORYZNO: Yeah, I -- could you read the motion, please?

MS. PARKER: Basically a resolution related to the regular city council meeting of April 28th, 2015, with the exception of Resolution 123.15.

MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

MR. BOVITZ: I'll support.

MR. KORYZNO: All right. Moved by Parker, supported by Bovitz to entertain a motion to approve resolutions from the April 28th meeting with the exception of Resolution 123.15.

Discussion?

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: Excuse me. All -- yeah. Discussion? None?

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: Okay, all in favor of the motion, say Aye?

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

Opposed, same sign?

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved.

Next item: Resolution 123.15 O'Brien's alley vacation. Mr. O'Neal, can you summarize this item or Ms. Booms?

MR. O'NEAL: I'll let her do that.

MS. BOOMS: Cassandra Booms, City Attorney's Office.

I thought I'd stand up because I have been helping the city work through this process for some time.

This is part of an overall project to rezone a piece of property to expand a grocery store -- a grocery store -- it's very important to the city. There were many, many steps to this; one of the steps was vacating an alley as part of the rezoning process, and it was conditional rezoning.

That alley vacation resolution had to occur more than once because it was only valid for 30 days, and everything had to be completed and it eventually had to be recorded. The city was advised that the other party, the petitioning party for the rezoning was going to record it. It wasn't recorded. We went back to make sure everything was done correctly so that it was recorded. So basically this was just something repetitive. It's been before you before, but that motion specifically said subject to TAB approval. It is a resolution and ordinance.

Just wanted to make sure you had all of the information.

MR. KORYZNO: Questions for Ms. Booms?

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: All right. Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion.

MR. BOVITZ: So we -- I move that we approve Resolution 123.15 regarding the O'Brien alley vacation from the meeting of April 28th.

MS. PARKER: I'll support.

MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz, supported by Parker to approve Resolution 123.15 O'Brien's alley vacation.

Discussion?

MR. BOVITZ: Was there just -- there was some memorandum of understanding between you and the city about the

issues with regarding that, that there was a problem? Other than what you've already stated or?

MS. BOOMS: No, the main issue was just it wasn't recorded timely and it needed to be recorded timely, and so we had to, because it wasn't recorded in the timeframe that the statute provides, we had to go through the process of that.

MR. BOVITZ: So it just cost more money in brief.

MS. BOOMS: The -- you could say that, but this process has been lengthy and costly to begin with. It's been ongoing, and it's something that just needed to be done. I mean, the -- to make sure that the city's records are accurate, things need to be recorded with the Register of Deeds in our ordinances --

MR. BOVITZ: Everything seems proper though now?

MS. BOOMS: Everything's proper now.

MR. BOVITZ: Okay. That's all.

MR. KORYZNO: All right. Seeing no further discussion, all in favor of the mother say Aye?

motion

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

Opposed, same sign?

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: The motion to approve Resolution 123.15 is approved.

Item two: resolutions from the regular city council meeting of May 12th 2015. I'll entertain a motion.

MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

MS. PARKER: Support.

MR. KORYZNO: I'd ask that you state the motion.

MR. BOVITZ: Oh.

MR. KORYZNO: For clarification, please?

MR. BOVITZ: Well, this one is -- these are the resolutions from the regular city council meeting on May 12th, 2015. But there's no exceptions.

MR. KORYZNO: Yes, there are.

MS. PARKER: There are exceptions.

MR. KORYZNO: There are exceptions.

MR. BOVITZ: There are -- okay. It says April 14th. Is that --

MS. PARKER: Yeah.

MR. BOVITZ: Okay, so Resolutions 134.15 and 135.15. So what is the April 14th?

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: I think that's a typo. I apologize.

MR. BOVITZ: Okay. Yeah, to the motion stands then to approve the resolutions of the regular city council meeting on May 12th, 2015 with the exceptions of Resolutions

134.15 and 135.15 and 136.15.

MS. PARKER: Support.

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

Discussion?

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: The motion is approved.

Item A: Resolution 134.15, police department special assessment.

Mr. Van de Grift, background, please?

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Resolution 134.15 is the corollary resolution for the fire special assessment that you just addressed. This special assessment is for police operations and it is more significant. Last month the resolution before the board was for some 15.6 mills. That evening the city council rescinded that resolution and resolved to asses a police PA 33 special assessment for 20.06 mills. So in combination with the fire, it would approach 25 mills, but these were separate resolutions and so they are

1 before you now.
2 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.
3 I'll entertain a motion.
4 MR. BOVITZ: Well, just a question; then, so the
5 budget then, it says that the cost of maintaining the police
6 department is estimated to be $3 million, so that this new
7 special assessment would be almost two-thirds of that total
8 budget. So 20 mills in real dollars then, is that $2 million
9 extra?
10 MR. O'NEAL: Yes.
11 MR. BOVITZ: That is a big chunk.
12 And if we don't approve it, then what happens?
13 MR. KORYZNO: Mr. O'Neal?
14 MR. O'NEAL: The budget doesn't stand then.
15 MR. KORYZNO: Entertain a --
16 MS. BOOMS: May I say something, please?
17 MR. KORYZNO: Yes.
18 MS. BOOMS: Cassandra Booms of the City
19 Attorney's Office.
20 If the fire assessment was approved and the fire
21 and the police assessment will follow the same procedures,
22 procedurally speaking there would be no reason to not approve
23 the police, procedurally speaking.
24 MR. BOVITZ: Well, is it the question about the
25 number of mills that was originally indicated, but then it

1 became 20 mills all of a sudden?
2 MS. PARKER: Yeah, it's changed.
3 MS. BOOMS: The mills have increased; that is
4 correct. Yep.
5 MS. PARKER: And I do agree with you, it's the
6 same --
7 MR. KORYZNO: Procedurally the same.
8 MS. PARKER: -- methodology procedurally. I
9 think the question is the number of mills.
10 MS. BOOMS: I believe, Ms. Parker, when you were
11 here we did right under ten for police and right under ten for
12 fire. And then it was split up with two on the summer and
13 seven on the winter taxes.
14 MS. PARKER: I think, well, I don't have it in
15 front of me, but I think the total was 10.4 mills. Yeah.
16 MS. BOOMS: None of us have it in front of us.
17 MS. PARKER: Yeah.
18 MS. BOOMS: That's what I recall.
19 MS. PARKER: But I think that was -- it was the
20 total. Yeah.
21 MR. O'NEAL: If I may, there's a couple of
22 things here when you take a look at this relative to the rest
23 of the city, the other millages is we had a decrease of 27
24 percent of residential SEV. So while the millage is higher,
25 the amount of money that we're getting is not that much higher

relative to -- because of that 27 percent in residential property values.

MR. BOVITZ: So going back to what was communicated at the public hearing, in terms of real dollars was the 20 mills communicated what it'd cost the average homeowner?

MR. O'NEAL: Yes.

MR. BOVITZ: Okay.

MR. O'NEAL: The same thing was --

MR. BOVITZ: And any guideline to what that number is?

MR. O'NEAL: I believe we said it was going to be about a hundred dollar increase over and above per property over and above what was assessed before.

MR. BOVITZ: For the whole year?

MR. O'NEAL: Yes.

MR. KORYZNO: For police; just police though.

MR. O'NEAL: Police, yes.

MR. BOVITZ: I move that we approve Resolution 134.15, the police department special assessment.

MR. KORYZNO: Is there support?

MS. PARKER: Support.

MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz, support by Parker to approve Resolution 134.15.

Discussion?

(No response.)

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

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

Opposed same sign?

MS. PARKER: No.

MR. KORYZNO: Motion is approved with one dissention.

Next item is resolution 135.15, janitorial contract.

Mr. Van de Grift, please provide background.

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: It appears that the city was displeased with their previous provider for janitorial services. The city went out for bid, received ten bids. Selected a low bidder, Universal General Contractors, Incorporated. The contract before the board provides for ~~some~~ a $3,978 payment~~s~~ each month for an annual sum of $47,760. The city has completed the requisite disclosure form and the contract has been approved as to form by the city attorney. The city has also indicated that this expenditure is within the city's two year budget.

MR. KORYZNO: I'll entertain a motion.

MS. PARKER: I would move for the approval of Resolution 135.15 for the janitorial contract.

MR. BOVITZ: Support.

MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Parker, supported by Bovitz to approve Resolution 135.15.

Discussion?

MR. BOVITZ: In the schedule of charges estimate, those companies based in Southfield, and it appears as though they have proper liability insurance, and I'm not sure what other experience they have with municipalities, but are the -- the bid is it reasonable as far as what they're expecting to incur?

MR. O'NEAL: Yes, we had a pre-bid meeting that if the contractors did not come to a pre-bid meeting they could not bid on the project because we wanted to make sure that they understood what they had to clean.

We also had a meeting with them last week to let them know when we wanted them to start and to go over and double-check everything, and again, it's like anything else.

Can they do the job?

They're only as good as the people they send over, and that's what we're finding in our last couple of contracts is the people that come here, sometimes one employee will do a lot better than another employee, and in this type of business, oftentimes you don't have the same employee working for a company for whatever reason, so it's a very difficult situation.

The company that we have now has been doing a better job than they were, but I wasn't here when they came back on board. They were not my selection. They came back on board, this company came on board. They were immediately notified by the city attorney I think, by Cassandra two or three months after they started expressing the displeasure with what they were doing, and we were right back in the same spot, so that's the reason we're seeing the bid again.

MR. BOVITZ: Well, how long was the current company working for the city?

MR. O'NEAL: Less than a year.

MR. BOVITZ: So was there any problems with security, issuing keys or?

MR. O'NEAL: No, they couldn't clean the place.

MR. BOVITZ: Because I know there's quite a few buildings. Now, the public library, does it have anything to do with the library and that being under Wayne County? It still --

MR. O'NEAL: No, this -- this has to do with them providing the services under the contract that they'd agreed to and not providing those services under the contract.

MR. BOVITZ: Okay. So in terms of real dollars then, the amount is pretty close to what we're paying there?

MR. O'NEAL: Yes. Yes.

MR. BOVITZ: Okay.

MR. O'NEAL: Yeah. That's not -- quite frankly, Mr. Bovitz, it's not the money; it's we can't get the buildings cleaned. Now, they finally cleaned -- the floors in here took them forever to do that, but.

MR. BOVITZ: Okay.

MR. O'NEAL: And what I -- what we have been -- I'm trying not to be parochial, but we're trying to do with these contractors when we have these pre-bid meetings is to indicate to them that the city of Ecorse expects to be treated just like every other city, and our money spends the same, and if you're not going to come in here and do the work, we'll be out to bid in two months. I want you to know that. We're not going to put up with substandard work. We expect them to do what we expect them to do. It's real simple.

MR. BOVITZ: Okay.

MR. KORYZNO: Any further discussion?

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: Resolution 135.15 is approved.

Resolution 136.15, SRF quality drive project. Mr. O'Neal, could you update the board on this matter and

specifically this resolution?

MR. O'NEAL: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Koryzno, members of the board. The work on the DSR project I believe is 100 percent complete. This, I believe this payment here takes us through 69 percent of the work, but the job is -- I've talked to the engineers and they've said the project is all but completed.

So typically what I've done in other cities where I've been where we have these process payments, I like the council to see that, and of course the TAB board, to see these progress payments, because they are large. It's a big project and I think that there should be oversight transparency.

MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

Any questions for Mr. O'Neal?

I'll entertain a motion.

MS. PARKER: I would move for the approval of Resolution 136.15 SRF quality drive project.

MR. BOVITZ: Support.

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

Any 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?

Resolution 136.15 is approved.

Next item, number three, claims and accounts from regular city council meeting draft minutes of May 26th, 2015.

I'll entertain a motion.

MR. BOVITZ: Move that we accept the claims and accounts for the regular city council meeting draft minutes of May 26th, 2015.

MR. KORYZNO: Is there a support?

MS. PARKER: Oh, support.

MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

It's been moved and supported to approve the claims and accounts. Any further discussion?

(No response.)

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

MS. PARKER: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Opposed, same sign?

Claims and accounts for the regular city council

meeting of April 28th, 2015 for the draft minutes is approved.

Next item is B, letter from city administrator dated May 29th, 2015. Item one, city council minutes were addressed in new business. Item two, budget to actual report month ending April 30, 2015. I'll entertain a motion.

MS. PARKER: I would move for the approval, or the acceptance of the budget to actual report ending April 30th, 2015.

MR. BOVITZ: Support.

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

Any 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: The budget to actual report from April 30th, 2015 is accepted.

Item 3, city controller contract. Last month the board disapproved this contract.

Mr. Van de Grift, what is the parliamentary

1 procedure for reconsideration of this item?
2 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Like other state boards, the
3 Ecorse RTAB follows the Robert's Rules of Order. A motion for
4 reconsideration may only be made by a voting member of the
5 prevailing vote that is being reconsidered. In practice this
6 means that in order to reconsider the vote for the city
7 controller contract that was addressed last month, such a
8 motion would have to be made by Member Parker or Koryzno.
9 Absent such a motion, no action would be taken and the
10 existing motion would stand.
11 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.
12 Any questions for Mr. Van de Grift?
13 (No response.)
14 MR. KORYZNO: I'll entertain a motion.
15 MR. BOVITZ: Well, I moved last month that we
16 accept the contract, but I got voted down, so I don't know --
17 MR. KORYZNO: Well, per Mr. Van de Grift's
18 explanation, there can only be a motion made by Ms. Parker or
19 myself.
20 MR. BOVITZ: Right.
21 MR. KORYZNO: And support by either Ms. Parker
22 or myself.
23 MR. BOVITZ: So what is the status then? How
24 are we moving forward with the -- is a search still going on
25 for a controller, or is the city -- city resolved that they're

1 going to--

2 MR. KORYZNO: Well, the city has options; two

3 that I would see is that they restart a new search or remain

4 contracting with UHY.

5 MR. BOVITZ: I can --

6 MR. KORYZNO: Well, seeing no motion, this item

7 will remain disapproved as accomplished at the last RTAB

8 meeting last month RTAB meeting.

9 Item four, janitorial contract, was addressed in

10 new business.

11 Item five, second payment SRF, addressed in new

12 business.

13 Item six, O'Brien's Alley vacation, addressed in

14 new business.

15 C, UHY report. Mr. O'Neal, please provide an

16 update for the board.

17 MR. O'NEAL: As to how they're doing?

18 MR. KORYZNO: Yes.

19 MR. O'NEAL: We need to get a full-time

20 controller on board. We need to get, in my opinion we need to

21 have a controller in here that has municipal experience, and

22 while Mr. Pepperman is an excellent employee, he does not have

23 municipal experience. I believe that we need to move forward.

24 I'm disappointed that there wasn't a -- and I'll

25 address that under the manager's report -- but other than that

there's nothing more to say.

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

Thank you.

Next item is city administrator report.

MR. O'NEAL: I want to thank you, Mr. Koryzno, and members of the board, for allowing this to be an agenda item. I'd like to see it as a regular agenda item.

I stand before you in two roles: one is the city administrator, and also as the liaison between the TAB Board and the city council, and I think I've been likened to a badminton birdie, and I think that's pretty good, because I feel like I'm a badminton birdie, and I don't have a problem with that. I just tough it out.

Recently the TAB Board asked the governor -- the treasurer to approve an amendment to the Order Number 94. That was an agenda item at the last TAB Board meeting. We did not get a copy of that information. We were told what that information was but we didn't get a copy of it because we don't get -- we don't get your packet. Okay. We send you a packet but we get an agenda. I was later given it by Mr. Van de Grift.

There's a large concern relative to the amendment in Order Number 94 that Ms. Parker put together before she left. That's a very, very important amendment, and I think that there should have been ability for the city to

have input on that. I think myself, as a city administrator, should have had some input on that.

I have discussions with Mr. Van de Grift and/or Mr. Byrne or Mr. Klein or whoever avails themselves on weekly meetings, conversations that we have, those have been moved to biweekly. It's apparent to me that not all discussions or information that goes on to those discussions get to the members of the TAB Board. So I think it's incumbent upon me to inform the TAB Board as to the things that are going on, and also to express council's displeasure with the amendment to Number 94, Article Number 8.

Ms. Parker and Mr. Koryzno, you have been city managers for as long as I have; maybe not quite as long as I have, but you've been -- I've known both you guys for my entire career. I don't ever not know -- remember not knowing you two guys.

Ms. Parker, your Order Number 94; succinct, excellent. Excellent. When I look at your orders and the things that you put together and you changed the form of government from a strong mayor form of government to a city administrator form of government, there was reasons for why you put those -- that information in there. It's excellent. You put in there that the city council is to go through the city administrator to the employees, and the employees are to go through the city administrator and then to the council, and

1 the reason for that is it's good governance. It's good
2 governance. You can't have people going behind the city
3 administrator's back to the mayor and the council with half-
4 truths and whatever else they might do. It doesn't work that
5 way. And, the department heads can't have seven bosses.
6 The reason I wasn't here the first time, why
7 they let me go, is I explained that to the members and they
8 mayor and the council of how the Order Number -- Order Number
9 94 lasted. There were members on the council I believe that
10 didn't like that and thought that I was saying that they can't
11 talk to the employees. That was not the interpretation I was
12 trying to explain to them. That is a very tough on the
13 department heads and council -- or department heads that if
14 you've got council members coming to them and asking them to
15 do things that may be outside of their scope or whatever, that
16 it puts them in an untenable position. Okay, that was
17 yesterday.
18 Now we're today. The mayor/council understand
19 that, and they get it. They get it real well. They
20 understand that they can come and talk to the employees, is
21 that right? That's right. The point is, I don't want them
22 directing the employees.
23 Now, this Order Number 94, where you talk about
24 the city administrator, where I have the authority to make the
25 appointments and discipline and what have you. You already

1 have the authority for the hiring; anything over $10,000 I have
2 to come to you. I have -- there's no problem with that. The
3 problem that we have with the dismissal of employees, it puts
4 us -- it puts me in an absolutely untenable position.
5 Obviously there's been employees that have contacted members
6 of the TAB Board and expressed their concerns over termination
7 or whatever else, and Ms. Parker and I have had conversations
8 of that. I kind of blew it off. I didn't think much of it
9 because, yeah, I do have employees that can be terminated and
10 they will be terminated if they don't do their work; that's my
11 job as a city administrator. If I catch somebody stealing or
12 if I catch somebody embezzling, if I catch somebody doing
13 whatever else anybody shouldn't be doing, they will be
14 disciplined. And I err on the side of the employee every time
15 and all the time.
16 I know that I've had discussions with other TAB
17 Board members relative to legal processes, and if you take a
18 look at what I've done over my career, I err on the side of
19 the employee. That's why I have water mill hearings
20 (phonetic) and show cause hearings. That's what I do; I give
21 them every opportunity to provide information so that in the
22 event that we get to a termination process that I err on the
23 side of them because that's good governance, that's good past
24 practice, and it also keeps us out of lawsuits, frivolous
25 lawsuits.

Okay. I have ongoing investigations right now, lots of them; lots of them. I am involving the FBI, the state pot~~ential~~ Police, Ecorse Police Department, and I have to deal with employees. I have missed the things that have happened over the last five years that we're addressing and we're going to continue to address that, and by doing this without discussing this with the mayor and council and myself is putting us in a very difficult situation.

If you're going to rule on whether or not what I did was proper or not, I believe it's incumbent upon you to have show cause hearings at this level so that you give the employee every right to come forward. I know employees have justice board relative to the processes that we've done for positions. I respectfully disagree with my ability to interview people, whether or not I have the ability to interview people. I've hired finance directors, police chiefs. I've hired city clerks, treasurers; I've hired DPW superintendents. I've hired them all through my career, and there's a process for that, and we follow that process. So I disagree with that.

I believe that we are in the best position to decide who might best fit within the organization so when we come forward I would expect that you'd want me to follow through with best practices and look at backgrounds and information.

I know Ms. Parker indicated there was a relationship between myself and Mr. Sedowski. Sadowski I mean, sure there is. I've got relationships to people all over the United States. I mean, after 40 years I ought to know somebody within the state of Michigan. And we city managers, Ed and Joyce, we know everybody, and if we don't know, we know somebody to call to find out who they are. Okay?

My job is to recommend to the city council who would be best fit for any particular position within the city, and they look for me. They look for me and my expertise to do that. Do we agree on everything? No. No. But they have confidence in me, and I think it's important to the report that's of -- the TAB Board provided to the city of Ecorse relative to the things that weren't happening last year, and I think Ed, you take that personally, which you should, because you're trying to do what's right here; all three of you are. But you've got to understand that you're giving the impression that's being given to the city that at every turn that we want to do something that you're impeding us.

There's the perspective that you want to see us fail. Now I'm speaking for the mayor and the council when I say that. I don't want to believe that. But I want you to know that we're moving in the right direction. You've got an excellent mayor and council and we want to move in the right direction, and we are.

1 Now, there were some things that happened at the
2 council meetings that may have precipitated this change, and I
3 want to make sure you understand that. There was two
4 appointments that were made by the city council. Nowhere did
5 you see in any communication to the TAB Board, any discussion
6 by me relative to those appointments. Those appointments were
7 made under public discussion by the mayor and the council.
8 They weren't agenda items.
9 We indicated to the mayor and the council under
10 the -- Mr. Williams who was there, the attorney, under 94,
11 what the process was. Okay. They understand it; they get it
12 now. But they did that. I'm not going to condone what they
13 did. I'm just trying to make you understand that as the
14 liaison between the council and this TAB Board, I am going to
15 do my job where I can do my job. I can't stop somebody from -
16 - my chair, when they make a motion and they do something; all
17 I can do is protest. But keep in mind that nowhere was that
18 condoned by me, okay? And they were told that.
19 I'm keeping the merit council informed whenever
20 and wherever I can relative to personnel issues. I am keeping
21 them out of the process because they don't belong in the
22 process. The form of government that we have here is a city
23 administrator form of government, and that falls under my
24 purview, and I'm going to do that. The controller contract
25 was, the contract was approved to the form; the appointment

1 was made by me. I made that perfectly clear.
2 Now, the council was happy with that, with the
3 appointments; that's good. I mean, we want everybody on the
4 same page, all right, but I just think that the discussion
5 should have taken place prior to that you do that, and I would
6 like to have additional discussions with you, Mr. Koryzno,
7 relative to this.
8 I'm not going to sit here and -- my job here is
9 not to sit here and berate this board, but I've got to put
10 this on the record; we need to talk. I talked with Mr. Byrne
11 and I -- he didn't realize that about the council and the
12 appointments; he didn't realize that. I didn't know -- I know
13 that Drew and I have conversations all the time. I will tell
14 you that Drew is wonderful, listens to me spew, and I tell
15 him, "Don't tell anybody what I just said," you know, and we
16 vent, and he's excellent. So I -- this is no casting any
17 dispersions on Mr. Van de Grift. I'll take him aside myself.
18 No. But he's in the same spot I am; we're between a rock and
19 a hard place, and we want to do what's right, and he doesn't
20 sit and tell tales out of school, so I want you to know that.
21 He's not saying about this guy or that guy; he doesn't do
22 that.
23 So I'm here to let you know the concerns that we
24 have here in Ecorse, what the mayor and the council has, and
25 concerns relative to Order Number 94 and things that are

transpiring with the board.

I guess the only thing that -- oh, one other thing. You might note that the statute treasurer approved the, this, I believe it was June 1st, was the date he approved this. My mayor got a letter last night, June 8th, okay? The mayor wrote a letter to the state treasurer, the governor, and the deputy treasurer May 12th and got a letter June 8th. Now, I don't know what kind of message they're trying to send, but he's asked for a dialogue. He's asked for a dialogue. I've asked for a dialogue and I can't get a dialogue, but I've got employees that can call the TAB Board Members directly and get a dialogue. There's something wrong here. Nobody likes a micromanaging city council or mayor. Well, we, you know, your job is to be a micromanager. Your job is to be a micromanager relative to what we're doing here. But when it comes to the day-to-day operations of the organization, I'm sorry, but you're out of -- that -- that shouldn't be in your province. That's why you have a city administrator.

This thing with the controller contract. Obviously the prevailing side doesn't want to bring it back under Robert's Rules. All right. We will do that. We've got to do something. We've got to do something. We need to save money; lots of money. We're going to be contacting, we're going back to the drawing board relative on reductions and expenditures and the legal fees and the controller's -- we've

1 got to save money. We've got to get the city out of
2 receivership. I see ways to save money. I need your help. I
3 don't need impedes. I don't know what it is about the
4 individual that's in there, but, you know, in my mind he was
5 the only person that was qualified and met the minimum
6 qualifications anyway. So that said, I'll -- we'll do that.
7 We'll do that again. Obviously we're going to have to do
8 that, but that's going to set us back another 60 days or so,
9 and that's -- that costs money from what we're doing.
10 You did see the job description that was in your
11 packet, and I hope that meets with your -- with your approved,
12 is it? The job description for the controller's contract?
13 Did they get it Drew?
14 MS. PARKER: I haven't seen it.
15 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Let's see here.
16 MR. KORYZNO: We saw the job description that
17 was in last month's packet.
18 MR. O'NEAL: Yes, that -- does that meet with
19 your approval? Because that's what we're going to use to go
20 out and -- you're saying that you want to see a job
21 description, and I just happened to think about that, and
22 that's in place, because that will -- if you don't agree with
23 that -- and any posting that we put on there is a
24 representative of what has to be done. If a -- if somebody
25 calls me on the phone and asks me a question what a controller

1 does, I've got to ask them what their name is because I don't
2 need you. I mean, when you're at that level. I mean, you've
3 got to have five years of management experience and in
4 municipalities; I mean, you have to have all this experience.
5 So again, it's just a representative of what you might do if
6 it's a controller or a finance director or whatever; it's --
7 they're interchangeable.
8 Is that right Mr. Bovitz, basically?
9 MR. BOVITZ: And that's what was advertised and
10 apparently you only had two respondents and you were satisfied
11 with Mr. Sedowski and that's why I thought that we found the
12 proper fit.
13 MR. O'NEAL: Well, and that's -- again, we're
14 trying.
15 MR. BOVITZ: All right.
16 MR. O'NEAL: We're trying. So I don't want to
17 belabor --
18 MR. KORYZNO: We'll respond to your questions
19 during board comments, Mr. O'Neal.
20 MR. O'NEAL: Okay.
21 Let me see. Let me finish.
22 Okay, and again, you know, I know a lot of
23 people. I know lots and lots and lots of people, and you guys
24 know lots of people. And we're only good -- managers are only
25 good as the people they surround themselves with. Okay. We

1 can't do every job. We've got some wonderful employees here.
2 We've got some wonderful employees here, and they weren't
3 hired by me, but they're wonderful employees, and somebody had
4 to know them. But came to -- let me see here.
5 And I do know that council people have been
6 contacted relative to individual employees and, you know, that
7 -- that is a recipe for disaster to interfere in a day-to-day
8 operations of employees.
9 Let me see here. I covered that. Covered that.
10 Oh, one final thing on the termination of
11 employees. I guess what I would ask is how are we going to
12 work this out? Because again, I've got lots of things that
13 are going on right now, and we're going to keep the process
14 moving. If you're going to -- it says any hiring or
15 termination of department head city employees or individual
16 service contracts is not effective without board approval. I
17 guess I'm looking for help as to how we might accomplish these
18 things without violating the employee's rights and about
19 keeping people on board that may be dangerous. I've got a lot
20 of moving parts here. I got a lot -- I've got some dangerous
21 things that are going on here. I've got a lot of things that
22 are going on here. Now, we've got them under control and
23 we're going to continue. I don't want to tell you that Ecorse
24 is out of control because we're not, but we've got these
25 processes. So believe me, the employees are well aware of the

fact, and I think some of them are happy with the fact that only you can terminate, and those employees are the ones that probably need to be terminated. So they're probably real happy about this. So I guess what is the process?

I know what I would do is I would go to the desk of the police officer and have them clean out their desk because you can't keep them here and wreck the computers and stuff like that, you know. I have one recently terminated employee that wants back pay; that's preposterous, but that's another story. But -- and I think it's a -- we need to think this through. This is kind of touchy.

Mr. Elem, am I missing anything?

MR. ELEM: I don't think so.

MR. O'NEAL: Okay. Any employee, am I missing anything?

Okay, thank you.

MR. KORYZNO: Thank you, Mr. O'Neal.

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

All right. Thank you.

Next item is public comment. Mr. Van de Grift -- per the board adopted rules, you'll have two minutes to speak to the board, and Mr. Van de Grift will be the time keeper.

Please approach the podium when your name is

1 called.

2 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Ms. Katherine Semos.

3 MS. SEMOS: Hi. Good morning. This is my first

4 --

5 MR. KORYZNO: Good morning.

6 MS. SEMOS: -- TAB board meeting attending and

7 it was very much full of information.

8 I've been a tenant or resident of the city of

9 Ecorse and a full supporter to my friend Linda who got me

10 started in this, but anyways, for two years this month. I'm a

11 prior resident of Ecorse. I've come to every council meeting

12 that has been since I've lived here, and I have even had

13 comments made about Mr. O'Neal here attending back into the

14 city and taking control. With what he had to say, I have to

15 admit and say to you all that I, as a resident I submit -- I

16 agree with Mr. O'Neal. I ask that you fully support him in

17 everything he says and does. I'm a full backer of his. We do

18 have a lot of wrongs that have been done to this city over the

19 past couple of years.

20 I've heard of a lot of wrongs that have been

21 done to the city, major wrongs, and Mr. O'Neal is just here to

22 correct those wrongs, and in order to do that, the severe

23 wrongs, he needs your full support as well as the residents'

24 full support. So I'm here to ask you as a resident and a

25 concerned resident for the city of Ecorse that we need to

1 improve, and he needs full backup from everywhere to run this
2 city, and as far as I'm concerned, he's doing a great job so
3 far. I give him kudos, and I hope you recognize that one day.
4 And, again, I beg you and ask for you that you
5 help and support Mr. O'Neal in every aspect and area that he
6 needs to run the city to get it back to where it used to be.
7 Because as I attend my daughter's house every Sunday and I
8 look out her window off of Woodward and Jefferson, and I can
9 just see the beauty that once was, all the families that were
10 once was here, and all the prosperous things that were taking
11 place. That needs to come back again. The city of Ecorse,
12 the residents that have been here for 40 years, all their
13 life, they deserve to see that again.
14 So thank you for your attention, and again all
15 your support that Mr. O'Neal needs to get the city back on its
16 feet; he deserves it. Thank you.
17 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.
18 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Councilman Elem.
19 MR. ELEM: Good morning.
20 MR. KORYZNO: Good morning.
21 MR. ELEM: I'm not going to piggyback too much
22 on what the city administrator said. Of course I'm naturally
23 against this amendment to the Order 94. As you know, Ms.
24 Parker, when you first came here, I wasn't even for a city
25 administrator because the fact, I said it wasn't in the

1 charter, and the reason why we got one was because we owe the
2 state money in the first place. Therefore the council and the
3 mayor were stripped of those orders that's in 94, the hiring
4 and firing, and now it appears that the administrator is
5 stripped. And I'd like to know what's on the agenda for -- it
6 seems like there's something more than what we are seeing. It
7 doesn't seem quite right to me. If you going to take that
8 authority away from the city administrator and the council and
9 give it to you, to staff up there that's supposed to be
10 overseeing the finances and making sure we stay within the
11 budget, now you saying that you could run it, the entire city.
12 I mean, that just seem to be squarely wrong.
13 Now, originally it supposed to have been a five
14 member board in the first place, and that was taken away,
15 eliminated, and down to the three member board where the
16 council had representatives supposedly, and the mayor had a
17 representative. As I look and read around, the other cities
18 that's following the same pattern that we are, they getting
19 that representation. Matter of fact, they even getting a
20 mayor on that board.
21 Okay, that's enough of that, so you know I'm
22 against that.
23 Now, the other part of it is that we didn't
24 really say anything today about the library, and I think that
25 somebody need to -- because this the month that we are out of

Wayne County. The only thing that they're doing now is to appoint the member board, and maybe the attorney or the city administrator can elaborate on that.

MR. KORYZNO: Thank you, Council Member Elem.

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Ms. Marilyn Oliver.

MS. OLIVER: Good morning.

MR. KORYZNO: Good morning.

MS. OLIVER: Marilyn Oliver.

I just wanted to ditto on the comments by Mr. O'Neal because I've felt the same way. Every time it seems like we're moving forward it seems like we step back again, and it's like, I'm very surprised that the board would interject itself in the day-to-day operations of the city, and I thought that was the purpose of having a city administration -- administrator. So I'm pretty displeased about the position of the board, and I actually felt like you've been obstructionist when we trying to move forward. And I too thought about writing both the governor and the state treasurer because I -- I feel like you're interjecting yourselves in the day-to-day operations of -- and you have to work and live here to know what's going on here, and if you know the history of Ecorse you know there's been corruption and there's been jobs that had no job descriptions, no evaluations. So I think that we couldn't do it internally cleaning up the city, but now we have somebody that's willing

1 to take -- and believe me, I stay on top of what he's doing as
2 well because I think we've got a working mayor, council, and
3 city administrator, and I think if they're on board, I'm just
4 surprised that you're not also on board. Thank you.
5 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.
6 MR. VAN DE GRIFT: That concludes public
7 comment.
8 MR. KORYZNO: All right. Thank you, Mr. Van de
9 Grift.
10 Next item is board comment. Per Ms. Parker's
11 request, the following items have been tabled, no further
12 action -- or the items that were tabled were listed again, so
13 for the board's edification.
14 MS. PARKER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
15 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.
16 Do you have any comments, Ms. Parker?
17 MS. PARKER: Just a couple of comments. There
18 was some discussion related to Order 94, and what I would
19 request of the city administrator is to perhaps maybe send
20 correspondence to the board reflecting on what your concerns
21 are so that we can look at it in more detail and get back with
22 you.
23 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you.
24 MS. PARKER: Okay. The other comment that came
25 up is in reference to the job description for the finance

director position. I would request that the board receive another copy to review unless there's something more that's being done with the job description.

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: In our packet today, if we look under 6B, I just want to make sure we haven't already gotten that. Second to the last page. Is this what you would like?

MS. PARKER: Yes. This will work. This is the final on the job description.

MR. O'NEAL: Yes, ma'am.

MS. PARKER: Okay.

MR. O'NEAL: And the job description that you have there entails all of the things that Plante Moran was doing, all the things that we think that the controller and/or finance director should be doing. And in it also we have a comment in there that other items as assigned, it will be whatever comes up.

MR. BOVITZ: That also was in the classified ad with Michigan Municipal League that was posted back in March, too, so I don't think --

MR. O'NEAL: There was a hybrid. I mean what was --

MS. PARKER: Yeah.

MR. O'NEAL: -- what was posted on there was basically for a controller position and some light duties that

they might do, because we would have them do the assessing functions, and they oversee the treasurer's functions and those types, and that's what happens here absent a full-time treasurer.

MS. PARKER: And just a point of clarification, any time I -- I can't certainly speak for all of the board members, but I think any time I've received a call I've made contact with you, Mr. O'Neal, related to any employee matter, primarily because we are not directly involved in the day-to-day operation of the city.

That's all I had.

MR. KORYZNO: All right, Mr. Bovitz?

MR. BOVITZ: Well, I, you know, I've said this in past meetings. I was appointed by the governor through a state representative to represent this board. This is not a -- this is a volunteer position for me. I have no vested interest other than seeing that the city of Ecorse is self-sufficient, and I can be fired from this job. So I -- my intent is to help you get back on your feet so that I don't have to come here every month. So, I do not like to be called an obstructionist.

MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

MS. PARKER: I concur.

MR. KORYZNO: Yeah.

In regards to the job description I would say

1 that it says the position qualifications require five or more
2 years in financial management in complex organizations. I
3 would add in a similar or larger-sized city. I would add
4 that.
5 I would also suggest that given our experience
6 in other local units that are in receivership, and you'd
7 mentioned that yourself, Mr. O'Neal, it's very difficult to
8 attract candidates, so I would suggest that perhaps you might
9 engage a search firm to search out, a firm to search out
10 candidates with a financial background and not just depend
11 upon placing an ad.
12 Certainly.
13 MR. O'NEAL: The aspect of a similar or larger-
14 sized city. Okay, the -- I'd like to -- I'm going to be very
15 vague with that, and the reason I say that, if I make that a
16 requirement, an absolute requirement, and we were to make that
17 absolute requirement, nobody'd ever be qualified for Grand
18 Rapids or Ypsilanti or whatever because as you know, Mr.
19 Koryzno, you and I didn't start in Ypsilanti; we started
20 somewhere else and we worked our way up. So, you know, you
21 kind of take little bites as you go along. And I think as far
22 as the finance director or controller position is concerned,
23 once you perform those duties it's just zeros, how many zeros
24 you got on the end, how big is your budget, is it $10 million
25 or $100 million; do you have 1,000 employees or 10,000

employees? Now, obviously when you're looking for somebody for 10,000 employees you don't want somebody that's got six. But, again.

And then city receivership -- oh, about hiring a search firm. The League charges $13,000 to do a search. Mr. Adams charges 25 percent for a search firm. There's no way that I'm going to pay $30,000 for a search; I'm not doing that. I'm not doing that, and I -- $13,000 is a lot of money to do a search.

Now --

MS. PARKER: Just a point of correction. The League did make adjustments in their fees so it's no longer like $13,000. They have various levels related to their searches.

MR. O'NEAL: Okay.

MS. PARKER: And they start at close to like $10,000 now.

MR. O'NEAL: Okay, but --

MS. PARKER: Okay?

MR. O'NEAL: -- the fact of the matter is, whether it's $10,000, and I know Mr. Adams I guess gets 30 percent, which is like 30 ~~grand~~ $30,000 for $100,000 job. Part of the deal, what Mr. Adams would do or what Kathy Grinzinger (phonetic) would do with it, they would shake the bushes. They would make phone calls to people they know; that's what

they do.

All right. I'm not trying to tell you I don't want to use a search firm. I don't think it's worth the money for us. I just -- I just don't see it.

MR. KORYZNO: I think depending solely on placing an ad in the League publication or the newspaper will not generate the -- I don't believe you'll generate any more candidates than you did this time. And so what they did in Hamtramck I believe they contacted the MSOA, the president of that organization to reach out to see if there was any individuals that may be interested, even in serving in an interim capacity until you could find someone in a permanent position.

MR. O'NEAL: Oh, I've got somebody that will serve as an interim capacity right now. I'm sure, Mr. Sadowski ~~Sedowski~~ would be more than happy to come over on an interim basis. He wants to come to work for Ecorse. I think he'd be perfect for Ecorse. And I know I'm beating a dead horse here, but I'm just telling you.

MR. KORYZNO: Okay.

MR. O'NEAL: He's perfect.

MR. KORYZNO: Understood.

In regards to your comment about similar sized city, you'd mentioned Grand Rapids or Ypsilanti. I've used that language when I was city manager and did not have

1 difficulty in attracting candidates.
2 MR. O'NEAL: Well, I -- you know what I'm
3 saying.
4 MR. KORYZNO: Right.
5 MR. O'NEAL: I mean, and people take -- and
6 let's face it. Let's just talk turkey just for a second.
7 Folks take a look at what's the city, are you Auburn Hills,
8 are you Ann Arbor? I mean, what's the city? Do you have any
9 money? Am I leaving a situation and I got security to a city
10 that may not have any money two minutes from now or -- they
11 look at all those things and qualified people are not going to
12 -- are going to be difficult to make that jump unless you pay
13 them an exorbitant amount of money, and then maybe that's not
14 enough. I know Joyce, you had indicated before maybe raise
15 the salary up. Well, I'm not saying that that might not --
16 MS. PARKER: Well, I, you know, I think what Mr.
17 Koryzno is stating is that if you use a firm, they can sit
18 down with you and the city and take a look at what it might
19 take to attract candidates. You know, it could be a number of
20 other considerations; I don't know. But, you know, you'll
21 have that expertise --
22 MR. O'NEAL: I'll call --
23 MS. PARKER: -- as your disposal.
24 MR. O'NEAL: I'll call Kathy. I'll call Kathy.
25 MS. PARKER: And it doesn't necessarily have to

1 be MML, but I do know that their rates are not as high, and
2 also would suggest that perhaps even the state could help with
3 the expense if in fact that's a real concern of yours.
4 MR. O'NEAL: Well -- okay. I got you. Thank
5 you.
6 MR. KORYZNO: All right. Thanks, Mr. O'Neal.
7 And in response to Council Member Elam's comment
8 about the agenda, the agenda is to help the city exit
9 receivership. We're here to facilitate as much as possible
10 your exit from state oversight, and so there is no agenda
11 other than that.
12 MS. PARKER: And just --
13 MR. KORYZNO: Ms. Parker?
14 MS. PARKER: Just a comment on that point. You
15 know, I agree with Mr. Koryzno, and I agree with the residents
16 here. You know, our job is to assist the city in
17 transitioning out of receivership. I know for the past three
18 or four meetings I've asked about the five year plan, and I
19 continue to bring it up because it's something that's required
20 in order to move out of receivership. So I think there's a
21 need to at least respond to the RTAB to help us do our job a
22 little bit better, and if we receive the information we need,
23 it's a lot easier to make decisions and to make
24 recommendations. There isn't any other motive in terms of
25 trying to stonewall the city or create problems for the city,

1 but without adequate information it's hard to make decisions.
2 MR. KORYZNO: Anything else, Mr. Bovitz? Ms.
3 Parker?
4 MS. PARKER: Just a comment. For the next
5 meeting, Mr. Chair, I wanted to make sure that you are aware
6 that I'm not going to be here, and if that's not a problem.
7 MR. KORYZNO: All right, we'll --
8 MS. PARKER: Okay.
9 MR. KORYZNO: -- review this scheduling.
10 MS. PARKER: Okay.
11 MR. KORYZNO: And if necessary we may have to
12 change it if you're not here. But if Mr. Bovitz and I are
13 here, then --
14 MS. PARKER: Okay.
15 MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you.
16 Seeing nothing else, I'll entertain a motion to
17 adjourn.
18 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.
19 MS. PARKER: Support.
20 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz, supported by
21 Parker.
22 All in favor of the motion, say Aye.
23 MS. PARKER: Aye.
24 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.
25 MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

1 Opposed, same sign?

2 The meeting is over at 10:11 a.m.

3 (At 10:11 a.m., meeting adjourned.)

4

5 * * * * * * * * * *

6

7

8

9

10

11

12 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: June 15, 2015

13

14 s/Amy Shankleton-Novess

15

16

17 _____

18 Amy Shankleton-Novess (CER 0838)

19 Certified Electronic Reporter