

Approved 6-9-15

City of Ecorse

Receivership Transition Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 12, 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 Dept of Treasury

Office of Fiscal Responsibility

Reported by:

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Called to order at 9:00 a.m.

MR. KORYZNO: Good morning, it's 9 a.m., and I'm calling 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: Edward Koryzno?

MR. KORYZNO: Here.

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Joyce Parker?

MS. PARKER: Here.

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: All present.

MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. Approval of the agenda.

MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

MS. PARKER: I have a question on the agenda, so --

MR. KORYZNO: All right, if you'd move or if you'd support, then we could discuss it.

MS. PARKER: Okay. Support the motion.

MR. KORYZNO: Okay, moved and supported to approve the agenda; you have a question, Ms. Parker?

MS. PARKER: Yes, I noticed, in looking at the agenda, there isn't any reference to the items that have been tabled in previous meetings, so I wanted to find out what happened to the items. You know, basically, why were they removed from the agenda?

MR. KORYZNO: Mr. Van der Grift, could you answer

1 that question?

2 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Mr. O'Neal can correct me if I've
3 made an error with the agenda, but last meeting, you spoke to how
4 many of those tabled items were either incorporated into the new
5 budget, or were no longer pressing issues for the city. I think
6 the only one that we had left was the withdrawal from the Wayne
7 County Library system.

8 Did I understand that correctly?

9 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There were, I
10 think, four items that you had tabled before. One of them was to
11 buy some equipment for the DPW that's no longer available; we're
12 not doing that. And one was, I think, a budget amendment that was
13 taken care of with Mr. Pepperman, and through -- you asked this
14 question about the budget process.

15 The Wayne County Library, we have already approved
16 to get out of there, and it no longer exists, so we can't even be
17 in there. And then the other one was the five year budget thing,
18 is the only other one, is that right?

19 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Body cameras.

20 MR. KORYZNO: Body cameras.

21 MR. O'NEAL: Oh, body cameras.

22 MS. PARKER: Yeah.

23 MR. O'NEAL: And, we kept that tabled because we're
24 going through the process, and there's also, we found, where
25 there's been \$20 million that's been allocated -- the number is --

1 \$20 million just came down through Obama administration, for body
2 cameras. So I was kind of worried about putting stuff in the
3 budget if it's a non-supplanting grant depending on how they come
4 out, we talked about that.

5 MR. VAN de GRIFT: I think the last one was the
6 master plan contribution, which I believe --

7 MR. O'NEAL: Oh, the master plan, yeah. The master
8 plan, we needed like \$5,000 to complete; we got \$15,000 from the
9 state grant, and we needed \$5,000 more -- \$6,000 more to complete
10 the entire thing. And we needed the budget amendment to recognize
11 at least \$15,000, plus the additional \$5,000 I guess from somewhere
12 else, fund balance or whatever. But we're almost finished with the
13 master plan, so I don't know, you know, where that's at.

14 But I mean, we, we're doing it. I mean, we got a
15 grant, I mean, we. So the -- actually, that budget was like for
16 six grand, or something. Want to be certain, isn't that about
17 right, \$21,000 for the recreation and the master plan itself? At
18 right about that -- we had a \$15,000 state appropriation from that.

19 MS. PARKER: So, so are you -- I guess, again, I
20 know you gave a report at the last meeting, but I didn't see any
21 action taken to remove the items from our agenda.

22 MR. O'NEAL: Well that's --

23 MS. PARKER: And then I believe there was one
24 related to the administrative assistant.

25 MR. VAN de GRIFT: That's right.

1 MR. O'NEAL: Oh, that's still there. That's still a
2 -- I didn't ask for those to be removed; I'm just speaking to them.
3 What happened to the --

4 MR. VAN de GRIFT: I guess I might add two fine
5 points. Because these matters were tabled, they need not be
6 discussed at every meeting. That was simply kind of a record
7 keeping --

8 MR. BOVITZ: Informational, just yes.

9 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Just to keep track of them. And
10 I think your point is well taken, now that they're not on the
11 agenda, we shouldn't forget about them. I think that the
12 employment is notable, that the employment change is in the new
13 budget --

14 MR. O'NEAL: And we have that listed on our bulletin
15 board, as to --

16 MR. VAN de GRIFT: And so is the master plan.

17 MR. O'NEAL: And the master plan and the five year -
18 - but we still have those as listed on our board that we need to
19 address what's happened on your side.

20 MR. VAN de GRIFT: So, previously the city had
21 requested a budget amendment. If the current budget is approved,
22 those budget amendments no longer would be necessary, because there
23 would be a budget document including them.

24 MS. PARKER: So, are the items then tabled but not
25 shown on the agenda, is that what you're stating, Mr. Van de Grift?

1 MR. VAN de GRIFT: I believe so, yes.

2 MS. PARKER: So how do we know if they're still
3 tabled into the future? If this isn't resolved, how would we know
4 that? As a board?

5 MR. VAN de GRIFT: We will include it on the next
6 agenda.

7 MR. KORYZNO: In the future.

8 MS. PARKER: Okay, thank you.

9 MR. KORYZNO: Okay, any further discussion on the
10 agenda? If not, all in favor say aye.

11 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

12 MS. PARKER: Aye.

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

14 (No audible response).

15 MR. KORYZNO: The agenda is approved. A reminder
16 to the public, that if you wish to speak during the public comment
17 portion of the meeting, it's necessary for you to sign the sheet at
18 the podium, and if you don't sign, then, you will not be
19 recognized.

20 Item C, approval of RTAB minutes of the April 21st,
21 2015, with noted clarifications.

22 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

23 MS. PARKER: Support.

24 MR. KORYZNO: Been moved and supported to approve
25 the April 21st, 2015, RTAB minutes with noted clarifications.

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

3 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

4 MS. PARKER: Aye.

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

6 (No audible response).

7 MR. KORYZNO: Motion is approved.

8 Item two, old business, five year budget. Mr.
9 O'Neal, last month you had committed to a June submission of the
10 Council approved five year budget, and therefore we'll look for
11 that submittal next month.

12 Any questions for Mr. O'Neal about that five year
13 budget?

14 (No audible response)

15 MR. KORYZNO: Okay. Item two, report from UHY. The
16 city had submitted a brief memo concerning the nature of the
17 UHY/city controller relationship; are there any questions from the
18 board regarding this memo?

19 (No audible response)

20 MR. KORYZNO: All right, we'll move on to item
21 three, new business. Approval of resolutions and ordinances for
22 City Council meetings. Item one, resolutions from regular City
23 Council meeting of March 31st, 2015.

24 MR. BOVITZ: Move that the resolutions from the
25 regular City Council meeting of March 31st, 2015, be adopted.

1 MS. PARKER: Support.

2 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz, support by Parker;
3 any further discussion?

4 (No audible response).

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

7 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

8 MS. PARKER: Aye.

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

10 (No response.)

11 MR. KORYZNO: Motion is approved.

12 Item two, resolutions from regular City Council
13 meeting of April 14th, 2015. Entertain a motion to approve the
14 resolutions from the April 14th, 2015 meeting -- City Council
15 meeting, with the exception of Resolutions numbered 100.15, 103.15,
16 105.15, 109.15, and 114.15.

17 MS. PARKER: So moved.

18 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

19 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Parker, supported by Bovitz,
20 to approve the resolution. Further discussion?

21 (No audible response.)

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

24 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

25 MS. PARKER: Aye.

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

2 (No audible response)

3 MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved.

4 Item 8, the 2015-2016 final approved budget,
5 Resolution 100.15. Mr. Van de Grift, can you provide background on
6 this for the board, please?

7 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Yes. This fiscal year, 2016
8 budget, has been developed by the city administrator and adopted by
9 the City Council. It contains several of the previous budget
10 amendments that had been requested by the city, as we touched on
11 earlier.

12 Notably, this budget is balanced, largely through
13 revenue increases, including increases to sewer and water rates, as
14 well as a couple of special assessment -- assessments which will be
15 levied. The budget is balanced with a modest \$31,000 general fund
16 surplus.

17 MR. KORYZNO: Any questions from the board for Mr.
18 Van de Grift? Or Mr. O'Neal?

19 MS. PARKER: I do have some questions related to the
20 proposed budget.

21 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

22 MS. PARKER: With the special assessment, is the
23 plan one of requesting approval from the voters, or is this
24 something that will be administratively handled?

25 MR. O'NEAL: All administratively handled.

1 MS. PARKER: And then secondly, there was some
2 question regarding increases being included in the budget. Can you
3 discuss what is included in the budget, in detail, related to any
4 increases?

5 MR. KORYZNO: Are you talking about increases in
6 revenue, expenditures, or both?

7 MS. PARKER: Increases in wages.

8 MR. KORYZNO: Okay. Thank you.

9 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you. I -- there is nothing in
10 there for increases in wages. I will say to you that the mayor and
11 Council have talked to me individually; now, I don't believe they
12 have deliberated as a body. But they took -- discussed with me
13 individually about doing some type of increase for the employees as
14 a onetime non-accrual, across the board increase, if you will, that
15 would go against the wages.

16 They had talked about doing something like that. I
17 indicated to them, both individually, that they needed to get the
18 budget in place and see what it looks like, and then come back to
19 this Transition Advisory Board, should they do decide to want to do
20 something like that.

21 Because the first thing that I told them was, the
22 TAB board would want to see what the budget looks like, before they
23 would even entertain anything like that.

24 MS. PARKER: Mr. Van de Grift had mentioned that
25 there was some type of an adjustment or increase related to the

1 administrative assistant position?

2 MR. O'NEAL: Oh, excuse me. Thank you. The
3 assistant to the city administrator, that budget, that is the only
4 thing that's in there that was put in the previous five year
5 budget, and it's in this budget. I believe the amount is around
6 \$12,000; I don't have the numbers in front of me. Go ahead.

7 MS. PARKER: Can you explain to us the rationale for
8 the increase and what it's for, how much it is, and how does that
9 impact the position?

10 MR. O'NEAL: Okay. The vast majority of those --
11 the monies required for that position -- are for the benefits.
12 That's what the money is for. There is an hourly rate increase in
13 there, but the vast majority of the increase is for the benefits.
14 The rationale for it is that this -- that position, I can talk both
15 -- I want to talk about, individually, about the position. And
16 then the individual. But I think it's more important to talk about
17 the position.

18 The position has morphed into one of the assistant
19 to the city administrator. The position, because we've eliminated
20 the HR director's position for a savings of approximately \$50,000 a
21 year and some other. We have eliminated over \$200,000 in salaries.
22 By doing so, there's monies available for this position, and the
23 increase in position so that any person that's in there will stay
24 in that position.

25 I'm training this individual, both in terms of

1 mentorship and her acumen, as it is, to be able to fulfill that
2 position. By having that full time position, it will eliminate the
3 need to have that full time HR position, and a lot of -- and being
4 able to decrease some of the positions. You'll note that the
5 building official has been decreased substantially; we don't have
6 the city engineer. I can handle a lot of those things with
7 consultants, because I've had to perform those positions.
8 So quite frankly, it's part of the management team that we're
9 putting together. Now, let's take that one step further. Should
10 the individual that is slated for that position were to leave, we
11 would need at least the amount of money that's in there.
12 I have gone to the League website and retrieved three or four
13 advertisements for the same position, and they are all between 48
14 and \$52,000 for that same position, with benefits. Now, I realize
15 that we can't pay that. I don't expect to pay that. But the
16 individual in the position that I'm asking for, performs those same
17 functions as those other ones, and those other ones.

18 So the rationale is, we're trying to put together a
19 management team and we're real thin. And quite frankly, the person
20 that's in that position makes it where I can speak in complete
21 sentences. Without babbling completely. So, that said, Ms.
22 Parker, that's the rationale for that position.

23 While it looks like we're increasing or giving a
24 raise to an employee, it's a contractual employee I'm bringing on
25 board as a full time position at that rate. I don't look at it as

1 a raise, if you will.

2 Yes ma'am?

3 MS. PARKER: So, it sounds like what you're
4 proposing is to establish a full time position, which is part time
5 right now. And then, you're increasing the hourly rate --

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

7 MS. PARKER: So how much of an increase are we
8 talking about?

9 MR. O'NEAL: I believe it's \$4 an hour.

10 MS. PARKER: Okay. And, the benefits that are
11 included, how much are we talking about, in terms of benefits?
12 What benefits are we talking about providing?

13 MR. O'NEAL: We're talking about health care, those
14 benefits that the regular full time employees would avail
15 themselves to.

16 MS. PARKER: And then, is there a new job
17 description with a title for the position?

18 MR. O'NEAL: The title is assistant to the city
19 administrator. Have I sat down and penned a -- no, I have not set
20 down and penned it -- I can't -- did we do one for you, a job
21 description for that position? I know there's a job description,
22 but not a new one with that title.

23 MS. D'ONOFRIO: Was my job description submitted
24 with that last item that was originally tabled? I don't think so.

25 MR. O'NEAL: No. I didn't want to be presumptuous.

1 But we will do that, we will do that.

2 MS. PARKER: Okay. And how does this compare with
3 the item that was placed on the RTAB's agenda that was tabled? I
4 mean, what -- I don't have the item in front of me, but how does
5 this differ from that item, that was put on the RTAB agenda, that
6 was tabled by the RTAB?

7 MR. O'NEAL: It's the same position; I just, it's
8 the same position that was on there before. I'm calling it
9 assistant to the city administrator. If you can't pay somebody,
10 you can give them a title. I mean, I'm being straight up. I mean,
11 the person in that position is the right hand to the city
12 administrator, and goes to all the departments and does whatever's
13 required.

14 She assists in all the departments in helping them
15 with their computer related problems, administrative problems.
16 We're in the process of doing standard operating procedures for
17 every position. And quite frankly, we're getting a lot of push
18 back from that, but, we're doing it. We need to have that.

19 MS. PARKER: Yes. And I'm just looking at the
20 creation of a new position.

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

22 MS. PARKER: I'm not really getting into the
23 individual at this time.

24 MR. O'NEAL: Well, let's talk about the position.

25 MS. PARKER: Yes.

1 MR. O'NEAL: And that's what I'd like to stay with.
2 The position that we're talking about creating, pays between 48 and
3 \$52,000 for those -- there's currently three out there on the
4 website right now. Or four. Are some of the cities bigger than we
5 are? Yes, they are. Does that drive a lot of the, what that
6 position might pay? Of course it does. Of course it does.
7 But the responsibilities for that position are the same. I mean,
8 you put together Council agendas, Council and TAB agendas. They do
9 all the administrative assignments from the city administrator
10 going to the departments, putting -- pulling together information.
11 Special projects, all those things. All those things that you've
12 had done, Joyce, and I've -- all those things that you've --

13 MS. PARKER: It sounds like you're restructuring the
14 position, so, I guess the other question I would have is, why we're
15 doing it at this point as part of the budget, as opposed to, again,
16 incorporating that in the five year plan for the city, the
17 financial plan for the city, and addressing any other inequities
18 related to other members of the staff. Especially if there's a
19 need to reorganize another area.

20 What I've seen in other communities is, sometimes
21 having a wage and compensation study done, and as part of that
22 process, look at positions, and determine whether there's a need to
23 restructure positions. So I guess I'm not clear why we're doing
24 this position at this point in time, and not addressing things in a
25 more comprehensive manner.

1 MR. O'NEAL: Well, the reason we're doing this one
2 at this particular time is because this is the only position --
3 most of the other positions are contractual positions.

4 And of course we had to change some of those around
5 for Ms. Boome's recommendation to who's employees and who's not.
6 But this position is basically the only position that's not a full-
7 time, city position like this. When I look at all the other
8 positions you talk about contractual doing a compensation study,
9 I'm trying to think, outside of the controller there's only one
10 full-time position except for Terry's. I don't see the need to do
11 a compensation study for all those other positions. I mean I've
12 got -- most of them are AFCMSE or union positions that are already
13 pre-existing. This is the only besides Terry, there's Terry and
14 Marcia, and the only ones that are not union positions. I mean I
15 could have a conversation so the --

16 MS. PARKER: I'm only asking the question. You
17 know, I've gotten comments from members of your staff here about
18 inequities. That's why I'm asking the question.

19 MR. O'NEAL: Well, I --

20 MS. PARKER: If you're really discussing
21 restructuring and reorganizing.

22 MR. O'NEAL: I am. I'm really only honing in one
23 basic position.

24 MS. PARKER: One position. That's what I'm asking.

25 MR. O'NEAL: Which in my mind there's a need for

1 that position. In my mind there's a need to make it a full-time
2 position and it's one of a -- a very key position to any city
3 administrator. Whether I'm here or not. I mean. That's a real
4 key position.

5 MS. PARKER: And believe me, I can appreciate the
6 fact that it is a key position. The position previously was a
7 full-time position and it was reduced to part-time status primarily
8 because of the city's financial status. Given the fact that you've
9 indicated that taxable values in the city have decreased, therefore
10 revenue has decreased, you're looking at increasing substantially
11 the special assessment as a result of the shortfalls that are in
12 place, I don't see where the city is better off to a point where
13 there is a need to revert back to full-time positions that have
14 been decreased to part-time status simply because of the finances,
15 not because the need was not there.

16 MR. O'NEAL: Well, that's all the more reason but
17 for the decreases in the salaries that we've effectuated since my
18 employment with Ecorse; \$50,000 in HR position alone.

19 MS. PARKER: Yeah.

20 MR. O'NEAL: This position more than pays for itself
21 and in my mind it's critical to the city administrator and it's
22 critical to this organization and I don't want to train somebody
23 and have that person leave. I just -- that's counter-productive
24 and it's not efficient and while it may not keep individuals from
25 leaving it will certainly forestall it.

1 I appreciate your comments relative to why you have
2 decreased those things and I've even gone forward with that and
3 accrue some even more for effectuating additional savings so that
4 this can be paid for in the original five-year budget that I handed
5 out that Mr. Strand included that position over the five years.

6 Now, I understand that what you're saying --

7 MS. PARKER: Now you raise another point. We've
8 asked for the five-year budget to be completed. Now, based on the
9 information we received today we might have it by the next meeting
10 or by July. Part of approving those changes with the position was
11 actually having that budget in front of us so that we can so where
12 the city is going to be at a certain point in time. So I don't
13 think the question is one of whether there's a need or not. I
14 think the question is really providing us with the information that
15 we need so that we can make an informed decision.

16 MR. O'NEAL: I don't disagree with that but I'm also
17 going to say that Ecorse is not going to rise and fall on the
18 monies required for that position based on the reduction of several
19 hundreds of thousands of dollars in salaries already. So, I mean,
20 I could stand here until the cows come home and tell you that the
21 need for this position and how we're already paying for it. I
22 mean, I'm going to be very adamant about the fact that, just as you
23 are, Ms. Parker, adamant of the fact about what we need to go
24 forward with a five-year budget. I made that perfectly clear to
25 the mayor and the Council both. This 2015-2016 budget being the

1 foundation for the five-year budget and if you'll notice it was
2 approved seven to zero and they understand that and I have plans
3 for effectuating balanced budgets going forward and getting us out
4 of receivership and some of those are obviously to increase
5 revenues where we can, just knowing full well that -- I mean I
6 could talk about the budget all day long but we've had -- I believe
7 that there are some political drivers not here in Ecorse but in
8 Wayne County, wanted the assessments were artificially high and
9 where they dropped 27 percent because now you see that Wayne County
10 is facing receivership because of that exasperating drop in there.
11 So, for something to drop 27 percent in one year tells me that
12 those things should have been dropping over the last several years
13 more than what they were instead of having a 27 percent drop to
14 make up for something that -- but that's my opinion based on what I
15 observed. Under good assessing practices it shouldn't be dropping
16 27 percent in one fiscal year. There's something that's not quite
17 right there. So, that said --

18 MS. PARKER: Well --

19 MR. O'NEAL: Hopefully we're at the bottom of it
20 this time.

21 MS. PARKER: No further questions.

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

23 MS. PARKER: Just one comment to me is just really a
24 disregard of this Board because we had the item tabled and it's now
25 coming back to us just in another form.

1 MR. KORYZNO: I understand.

2 MS. PARKER: Thank you.

3 MR. KORYZNO: Okay. I'll entertain a motion.

4 MR. BOVITZ: I just have one comment. You're taking
5 a \$11 million budget and cutting it ten percent because without the
6 settlement money so I, you know, sympathize with you but with the
7 tough choice you've got to make to cut ten percent off the revenue
8 and still have a balanced budget, so.

9 I so move. That we accept the Resolution 100.15.

10 MR. KORYZNO: I'll support it.

11 Moved by Bovitz, supported by Koryzno --

12 MR. BOVITZ: This is the one-year budget, right?

13 MR. KORYZNO: The 2015-2016 final approved budget,
14 Resolution 100.15. The only comment I'll make is that while the
15 budget is balanced and I credit you with that, Mr. O'Neal, the
16 increase in special assessments is on an upward trend and if that's
17 the intent over the next several years to balance the budget then
18 that would be a significant tax increase on the residents that pay
19 for services here in the city.

20 Any further discussion?

21 (No response.)

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

24 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

25 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign.

1 MS. PARKER: No.

2 MR. KORYZNO: All right. The motion is approved.

3 Let the record show that Ms. Parker voted no.

4 Next item is police and fire special assessment,

5 Resolution 103.15. Mr. Van de Grift, background, please?

6 MR. VAN de GRIFT: As I looked at these minutes,

7 indeed it's Resolution 102.15 as well as 103.15. These resolutions

8 concern a PA 33 police and fire special assessment. Specifically

9 for police, the intent was to generate \$1,581,250. To do so, the

10 city would levy 15.6499 mills, utilizing the PA 33 special

11 assessment. Alternatively, the entire fire amount, budgeted

12 amount, would be funded with an identical special assessment, this

13 time generating some \$487,500 by way of 4.8261 mills.

14 MR. KORYZNO: Any questions from Mr. O'Neal on the

15 proposed police and fire special assessments?

16 MS. PARKER: So it sounds like you're going to be

17 levying 20 mills?

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

19 MS. PARKER: It's doubled?

20 MR. O'NEAL: No. I think yours was --

21 MR. KORYZNO: I think it was 14.

22 MR. O'NEAL: Fourteen, yeah.

23 MS. PARKER: It's ten. Yeah, it was ten. Unless

24 something changed.

25 MR. KORYZNO: I thought this year was seven apiece.

1 MS. PARKER: I think it was --

2 MR. O'NEAL: I thought it was seven apiece, too.

3 MS. PARKER: Yeah.

4 MR. O'NEAL: I thought it was two and five.

5 MS. BOOMS: There's two collections and I don't have
6 the resolution in front of me from that previous meeting. But I
7 know there's a fall and a summer collection.

8 MR. O'NEAL: We can only levy two in one. We can
9 only levy two.

10 MS. BOOMS: Up to two. So whether it's seven or
11 nine, you would have to look at the minutes.

12 MR. O'NEAL: You can only levy two either in --

13 MS. BOOMS: In the summer.

14 MR. O'NEAL: In the summer and the rest has to be
15 levied in the fall.

16 MS. PARKER: Right. I guess I was looking at the
17 resolution that was adopted when the millage was established for
18 the city and I believe it was something like 10.4 mills. Okay.

19 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

20 MR. O'NEAL: If I might?

21 MR. KORYZNO: Yes, Mr. O'Neal.

22 MR. O'NEAL: Mr. Koryzno and members of the RTAB.
23 We had discussions on the millage in detail at our public hearing,
24 more importantly at our public hearing and we had those people in
25 attendance that attend all of our meetings so all those prospective

1 people that run for the Council and we talked about the need for
2 the millage and that we realize that the millage would increase and
3 those types of things and there was not an objection either on to
4 Council or from the public relative to what we were trying to
5 accomplish. In light of the fact that we lost \$550,000 in our
6 assessed valuation and that we had to make those monies up. And we
7 we made it perfectly clear, we were transparent as could be. We
8 explained to them why we had to do that. People were there. They
9 came up and I have members of my Council here. People came up
10 after the meeting and thanked us for what we were doing. They
11 realize nobody wants increased taxes but they understood why we
12 were doing and what we had to do and quite frankly it was -- I
13 wouldn't call it harmonious but nobody complained. I mean, nobody
14 wants increased taxes but it was explained in detail at those
15 public hearings and at our budget meetings.

16 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

17 Mr. Van de Grift, are you saying that this motion
18 should include approval of 102.15 and 103.15?

19 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Yes, sir.

20 MR. KORYZNO: Okay. So I would entertain a motion
21 to approve, deny, or table Resolution 102.15 and Resolution 103.15,
22 police and fire special assessment.

23 MR. BOVITZ: I move that we approve both 102.15 and
24 103.15.

25 MR. O'NEAL: May I?

1 MR. KORYZNO: Yes.

2 MR. O'NEAL: I would be remiss if I didn't -- you're
3 approving what was in the resolutions. There was a problem with
4 the advertisement on tonight's Council agenda we have a correction
5 in there as to what the proper millage should be as it was
6 advertised. And I will turn that over to Mr. Pepperman now because
7 when it was originally advertised, the millage rates in there were
8 not exactly correct.

9 MR. PEPPERMAN: When I originally developed those
10 numbers there was a computation that was noted at a late time after
11 the first went out and notices went out. We then corrected the
12 computational error and unfortunately, I believe it resulted in us
13 having to raise the millage to the numbers you're seeing today.

14 MS. PARKER: What was advertised?

15 MR. O'NEAL: The 10.283 mills.

16 MR. PEPPERMAN: Yeah, I believe initially it was
17 10.283 mills and then when we went through and saw, oops, we had to
18 make an adjustment otherwise we would not be presenting a balanced
19 budget and I understood that that was primary in making sure that
20 we presented a balanced budget. Nobody likes new tax increases. I
21 don't like tax increases as an accountant or as a taxpayer. But
22 it's one of those things that's necessary in order to make sure we
23 have a balanced budget.

24 MR. O'NEAL: So on tonight's, we re-advertised
25 there's a public hearing at tonight's Council meeting that were

1 reviewed by Ms. Booms that will take place that will correct that
2 discrepancy in the millage so that everything is exactly the
3 numbers that we need. So, no, we're not trying to put anything
4 through you, those information that you're approving, those are --
5 that's what was approved by the City Council so I'm not disagreeing
6 with that. I'm just wanting to bring you up to speed that we have
7 a public hearing tonight that's going to correct that one millage
8 rate.

9 MR. KORYZNO: So technically, what's before us is
10 not correct?

11 MR. O'NEAL: That resolution, only. The numbers are
12 right.

13 MR. KORYZNO: Ms. Parker?

14 MS. PARKER: I would ask the city attorney if she's
15 got any comment? Can she clarify what's taken place?

16 MS. BOOMS: Cassandra Booms city attorney's office.
17 I can only clarify to an extent because I don't actually attend the
18 Council meetings. Esly Willams, another attorney that works with
19 us attends the Council meetings. I know that the city was
20 instructed to publicly notify the special assessments to estimate
21 the cost of what it takes to operate and maintain both the police
22 department and the fire department and then what portion of it that
23 they wanted to assess and then how many mills is going to equal the
24 portion that they're assessing. I know that there was discussions
25 on how much we actually collect on assessments and whether or not

1 we're actually going to collect the full amount that we will assess
2 and how that will impact the budget overall. I know that the
3 assessments have been re-noticed. I have not seen them. It's
4 something I actually need to talk to Wayne about today that they
5 are trying to address the situation.

6 If you have a more specific question maybe I can --
7 that's my general knowledge.

8 MS. PARKER: Have you reviewed the changes, the
9 language changes and whether is that something that you can confirm
10 that is now correct or is it still something that needs to be
11 reviewed?

12 MS. BOOMS: I can tell you the minutes that were
13 done that are before you and that the minutes that will be done at
14 the next meeting are reviewed by me and I have said to all the
15 parties involved, all the department heads that I want to make sure
16 that these are noticed properly and that the minutes are done
17 properly. I had concerns about this set and I went to the city
18 administrator about it. How that it, you know, involved the
19 decision making process to come back, Wayne would probably have to
20 expound on that more but I take a lot of effort into making sure
21 that these types of resolutions that are very intricate and involve
22 the charter and state law are reviewed by the legal office to make
23 sure that they are done correctly. I take every effort possible.

24 MS. PARKER: So is there a need, then, for the mayor
25 and Council to give some reconsideration to the budget that was

1 adopted if in fact the resolutions related to the special
2 assessment is not correct?

3 MS. BOOMS: Well, I can tell you there are two
4 issues; whether you are looking at revenue or expenditures and
5 while this is not a tax, it's a special assessment, it's bringing
6 money in and it's revenue, it's creating more money for the city to
7 operate. If they are able to operate on the lower numbers that the
8 city has provided in front of you they should be able to operate
9 with any higher numbers they'd provide at a later date. You know,
10 it's kind of a complicated question because I don't know what's
11 going to happen at the Council meeting and how much things are
12 actually going to change because I have not seen the proposed
13 resolutions. I've just given instructions on how they should be
14 carried out tonight.

15 MS. PARKER: Okay. Thank you.

16 MR. O'NEAL: Just for clarification, the resolutions
17 that are on the Council agenda are resolutions that came from the
18 city attorney's office and all we did was insert -- it's the same
19 language, we just inserted the correct numbers within there. The
20 millage. That's all we did. And those were prepared by and
21 through your office's resolutions.

22 MS. BOOMS: The language is prepared by the city
23 attorney's office. The numbers are not. The numbers are not
24 checked by the attorney's office either.

25 MR. O'NEAL: No. Nor should they be. So that's why

1 we are doing this to make sure that the revenues that we are
2 looking to generate are the revenues that we need. We want to make
3 sure that nobody comes back after the fact because it was
4 advertised at 10.283 mills on either side.

5 MS. BOOMS: Did you advertise for the mills this
6 time?

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

8 MS. BOOMS: Okay.

9 MR. O'NEAL: Yeah, that's putting -- we did
10 everything according to Hoyle like we did last time with the proper
11 numbers and when the City Council acts tonight and approves it, the
12 revenues will come in as we're required to have for the budget you
13 have before you. That's the only thing the Council has to do
14 tonight.

15 MR. KORYZNO: When you say proper numbers, are you
16 referring to the millage number or the amount of revenue you
17 anticipate to raise?

18 MR. O'NEAL: Both the millage number and the
19 revenues.

20 MR. KORYZNO: And so if I'm understanding you
21 correctly, the resolutions before us now did not have the correct
22 millage number?

23 MR. O'NEAL: Right.

24 MR. KORYZNO: Nor revenue number.

25 MR. O'NEAL: Typically, you can advertise for more

1 millage than you levy but you can't levy more millage than you
2 advertise for. So, say you want to levy ten mills, you can levy up
3 to ten mills. You can levy anything below ten mills but if you
4 levy -- if you advertise for ten mills, as you know, Mr. Bovitz,
5 you can't say I need 15 because you said you only need ten.

6 MS. BOOMS: A different way of saying it is if you
7 say the department takes a million dollars to run, that number
8 should not change. If that is your estimate of how to run a
9 department.

10 MR. O'NEAL: That's correct. That's correct.

11 MS. BOOMS: And then there's number of how much you
12 want to assess and then that millage needs to match that assessment
13 that you said that you want to levy.

14 MR. O'NEAL: Right. And that's what we're doing.
15 It's more ministerial than anything else. It's legal ministerial
16 but it's what it is and we're going to get the right numbers
17 because I don't want anybody coming back after the fact and saying
18 you're doing something that's not proper. So that's what they're
19 doing tonight.

20 MR. KORYZNO: Right. Any more questions?

21 Given the fact that a new resolution is going to be
22 introduced tonight, considered by City Council, I don't believe we
23 should --

24 MR. BOVITZ: I can withdraw my motion.

25 MR. KORYZNO: All right. Then we'll just allow this

1 to remain as is.

2 Next item is City Controller Contract, Resolution
3 105.15. Mr. Van de Grift, can you provide background on this for
4 the Board, please?

5 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Sure. Very briefly, the city
6 administrator seeks to hire an internal city controller. The
7 contract is included in your packet. Compensation includes \$75,000
8 a year plus benefits. The Board will recall that UHY has been
9 retained as city controller earlier this year and so this would be
10 a departure from UHY services in favor of Mr. Tim Sedowski.

11 MR. KORYZNO: All right. Mr. O'Neal, would this
12 change, a city controller, affect the verification agent agreement
13 that we approved last month?

14 MR. O'NEAL: No. The verification agreement would
15 still be in place with UHY and they would act as a verification
16 agreement. There's \$4,000 that's within the budget that whether
17 it's done contractually or done by the individual sitting in that
18 chair.

19 MR. KORYZNO: Have you been in contact with the bond
20 holders of the 2011 bonds to confirm this, that they are
21 comfortable with that?

22 MR. O'NEAL: Well because there's no change in the
23 person and the firm that's doing it I didn't see a need to even
24 contact them.

25 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

1 MR. O'NEAL: Because that's not going to change.
2 We've agreed to continue being the verification agent.

3 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

4 MR. O'NEAL: So.

5 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

6 I'll entertain a motion.

7 MR. BOVITZ: I move that we approve Resolution
8 105.15.

9 MR. KORYZNO: Is there support?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. KORYZNO: I'll support. Been moved by Bovitz,
12 supported by Koryzno to approve the Resolution 105.15. Discussion?
13 Mr. Bovitz?

14 MR. BOVITZ: Well, if that looks like the way the
15 city's going to go so I don't know why there'd be opposition. I
16 mean it looks like that Mr. Sedowski possesses the necessary
17 qualifications to run a municipal controller's office.

18 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

19 Ms. Parker, any?

20 MS. PARKER: Just a couple of questions. Is Mr.
21 Sedowski a CPA?

22 MR. O'NEAL: No, ma'am. I'm glad you asked the
23 question because I did check that out, the requirements for a
24 certified public accountant. My daughter is planning on sitting to
25 be a CPA and she has the requisite 150 credit hours to do that and

1 she graduated from -- as did Mr. Sedowski and Mr. Bovitz, correct
2 me if I'm wrong, a CPA will allow you to certify certain things.
3 It's a state licensure which allows you to do certain things.
4 Typically if you work for one of the large public accounting firms
5 they would want you to have that so you could do audits and
6 whatever else you could do with a CPA. In order to sit for that
7 you have to have 150 credit hours. Mr. Sedowski does have that,
8 whether or not he wants to sit for it and get it, but my
9 understanding is we can't certify our own work anyway. That's done
10 by an outside auditing firm. So that's just another license, just
11 like having a credential manager to certify a municipal clerk.
12 Whether or not I use it --

13 MS. PARKER: Not a big deal?

14 MR. O'NEAL: No. So, but no.

15 MS. PARKER: So, I don't have the resume in front of
16 me but has he served -- can you kind of go through his background
17 with us?

18 MR. O'NEAL: Can I what, I'm sorry?

19 MS. PARKER: Can you go through his background and
20 experience with us?

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

22 I hired Mr. Sedowski to be the clerk/treasurer.
23 When I say "I did", the City Council hired him up in Imlay City per
24 my recommendation. I totally vetted out Mr. Sedowski at the time.
25 I worked with Mr. Sedowski for at least a year, I believe it was

1 before I left. I found his work product to be excellent. He came
2 in without any cross-training to the position and had that job
3 under control within 30 days. I was impressed with his work, his
4 knowledge, how he deals with employees. He's worked as a finance
5 director or clerk or whatever you want to call a lot of the
6 different smaller communities throughout, Mayville being one of
7 them; out in Stockbridge; and he was the chief cook and bottle
8 washer in all those positions. He was village manager, village
9 clerk, clerk treasurer. In talking to him about his background,
10 he's -- I consider him almost an expert in BS & A which we have and
11 we have a need for that. I'm trying to think.

12 MR. BOVITZ: He has his bachelor's degree from
13 Eastern Michigan is in public administration and his master is from
14 Wallace College so I think that is pretty impressive.

15 MR. O'NEAL: Yeah, he's got the -- he's smarter than
16 I am, of course that ain't saying much but I think that he would be
17 -- forget the position, this person I believe would be excellent
18 for the organization at this time. I just think that his
19 background would be perfect because again, we're doing the standard
20 operating procedures and we're getting push back from that and this
21 person would be able to help doing those standard operating
22 procedures with my assistant to the administrator in getting those
23 forward because we're looking at streamlining the organization both
24 in terms of who can do what where, and as you well know as good
25 managers, no person would be an island and so that's what we're

1 looking at.

2 MR. BOVITZ: And you did offer it on the website,
3 the employment was offered for two weeks so and you only had two
4 applicants? I think he's the guy you wanted from the start, it
5 looks like.

6 MR. O'NEAL: If I may expound on that, Mr. Bovitz?
7 I did talk with Brian Camp-Conmiller (phonetic). I believe he's a
8 managing partner for Plante Moran. I was requested by Randy Burn
9 to recall Plante Moran to see if there's somebody available with
10 Plante Moran that could fill in for Mr. McCurley when he was gone
11 and he recommended Tim Sedowski for the position and I was kind of,
12 "Oh, okay." And also that Mr. Sedowski has interviewed, I believe
13 in Pontiac. There was only two people that interviewed there and
14 the controller told Mr. Sedowski that he was overqualified for
15 Pontiac. So I, you know how that works. How do you fit? And I
16 think he fits fine.

17 MR. KORYZNO: Any more questions?

18 The only comment is I have a concern that the job
19 description did not accurately reflect the necessary qualifications
20 for this position and as we heard at the last RTAB meeting, there
21 were concerns expressed about how the process was conducted.

22 I'll entertain a motion unless there's any further
23 discussion?

24 MS. PARKER: No.

25 MR. KORYZNO: Okay, it's been moved and supported to

1 approve Resolution 105.15, city controller contract. All in favor
2 of the motion say aye.

3 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

4 MR. KORYZNO: All opposed, same sign?

5 MS. PARKER: No.

6 MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

7 Okay. The contract fails.

8 Next item, Department of Labor Settlement Agreement,
9 Resolution 109.15. Mr. O'Neal, could you summarize this matter for
10 the Board, please?

11 MR. O'NEAL: The Department of Labor.

12 MS. BOOMS: Cassandra Booms again, city attorney's
13 office. We had an investigation here at the city by the Department
14 of Labor. It was based on a complaint, it's an anonymous complaint
15 and therefore we don't know who complained. They came in and
16 basically audited the DPW department for a period for about a year
17 looking for unpaid wages. During this investigation -- I'm sorry,
18 unpaid overtime. They found unpaid overtime and we also had an
19 employee that was a 1099 that should not have been a 1099. The
20 1099 issue was corrected. The unpaid overtime was calculated.
21 It's been paid out and we also had to pay a liquidated damaged of
22 equal amount to those individuals. We entered into the agreement
23 to prevent any further investigation which they have a right to go
24 back three years and look for more errors. It was a little over
25 \$3,000 in total and so we entered into the agreement and pretty

1 much all of the paperwork for all of that has been completed with
2 the employees and submitted back to the Department of Labor.

3 Questions?

4 MR. KORYZNO: Questions?

5 (No response.)

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

7 MS. PARKER: So moved.

8 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

9 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Parker supported by Bovitz to
10 approve Resolution 109.15, Department of Labor Settlement
11 Agreement. Further discussion?

12 (No response.)

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

15 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

16 MS. PARKER: Aye.

17 MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

18 Opposed same sign?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved.

21 Next item is Fitz v COE Settlement Agreement,
22 Resolution 114.15. Ms. Booms.

23 MS. BOOMS: Yes.

24 MR. KORYZNO: Would you summarize this for us,
25 please?

1 MS. BOOMS: And "COE" is City of Ecorse. That's
2 what we call COE here.

3 MR. KORYZNO: Oh.

4 MS. BOOMS: Cassandra Booms again.

5 This is one of the sewer cases against the city.
6 It's basically a class action suit and it'll be so much per house.
7 The class is yet to be certified. We do have a list. We double
8 checked to make sure there is no payments already administered to
9 those individuals so that there's no double dipping. The
10 settlement amount was approved and that will be distributed to the
11 people that are certified in the class. There is a companion case
12 and that's where Lincoln Park is suing us. This won't affect that
13 case and that case is on appeal still. The attorney handling the
14 case recommends it's a good settlement. We have a class of about
15 120 people so that's why we would go ahead and recommend that we
16 move forward with accepting it. Unfortunately there was no
17 insurance coverage. The lawsuit actually involved more than one
18 flooding event and that was kind of an issue for us with our self-
19 insured retention permit but that's about everything. So we would
20 recommend that it be approved.

21 Questions?

22 MR. KORYZNO: Only one. Where will the settlement
23 funds be paid from?

24 MS. BOOMS: Well, my guess is the general fund. I'm
25 not really equipped to answer that.

1 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

2 MS. BOOMS: It's a Wayne question.

3 MR. KORYZNO: Okay.

4 MS. BOOMS: Or Mr. Pepperman, perhaps but that's my
5 understanding unless they have it budgeted somewhere.

6 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

7 MS. BOOMS: What would you like to ask?

8 MR. BOVITZ: When you say 120 people, is that 120
9 households?

10 MS. BOOMS: Yes. It's basically per address. It's
11 for damages to the property and belongings within the property.
12 That's what they'll be compensated for,

13 MR. BOVITZ: How are those people notified that they
14 qualified for remuneration then?

15 MS. BOOMS: Lucky for us, the class action attorney
16 takes care of that. They go rounding everybody up and there'll be
17 notices out that you opt in or out and that will close it all out
18 then.

19 MS. PARKER: Just a question regarding the events.
20 It was more than one event then?

21 MS. BOOMS: Correct. There was more than one
22 flooding event. I believe it was August, July and November.

23 MS. PARKER: So is it something that the city could
24 actually correct or is it just an act of God and it could happen
25 again and then you're back in the same spot again?

1 MS. BOOMS: Correcting the situation is a massive
2 engineering undertaking. A lot of it has to do with a lot of our
3 old infrastructure. Gates that allow the flow to move out of the
4 city and through the system; how much capacity those pipes actually
5 hold. It's quite a complicated issue but you know, in my opinion,
6 the city is still susceptible to that type of event and I know it's
7 something that is being addressed with the engineers. It's been an
8 ongoing problem. A very old infrastructure. It's been an ongoing
9 problem. We're also addressing it with Downriver Utility
10 Authority.

11 MR. KORYZNO: Mr. O'Neal, I'd pose a question, where
12 will the funds, the settlement funds be paid from?

13 MR. O'NEAL: I apologize, are you talking about the
14 Department of Labor?

15 MR. KORYZNO: No. The City of Ecorse vs Fritz.

16 MS. PARKER: The water storm damage issue.

17 MR. O'NEAL: That would have to come out of the
18 water and sewer department. Either the fund balance -- well, they
19 don't have a fund balance, out of their working capital.

20 MR. KORYZNO: All right. Thank you.

21 MS. BOOMS: Okay.

22 MR. KORYZNO: Any further questions? Now I'll
23 entertain a motion.

24 MR. BOVITZ: Move to approve Resolution 109.15.

25 MS. PARKER: Support.

1 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz, supported by Parker
2 to approve Resolution --

3 MR. BOVITZ: I'm sorry .14 -- 114.15.

4 MS. PARKER: That's the 114.15.

5 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. Resolution 114.15.

6 Further discussion?

7 (No response.)

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

10 MS. PARKER: Aye.

11 MR. KORYZNO: Aye.

12 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

13 MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved.

16 Item 3, Claims and Accounts from Meeting Draft
17 Minutes of April 28, 2015. I'll entertain a motion.

18 MS. PARKER: I would move for the approval of Claims
19 and Accounts from the City Council meeting for April 28, 2015.

20 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

21 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Parker, supported by Bovitz
22 to approve the Claims and Accounts from the regular City Council
23 meeting of draft minutes of April 28, 2015. Discussion?

24 (No response.)

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

1 motion say aye?

2 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

3 MS. PARKER: Aye.

4 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved.

7 Letter from City Administrator dated May 1, 2015.

8 Item one City Council meeting minutes were addressed in new
9 business. Item 2, Budget to Actual Report, I'd entertain a motion
10 to approve the Budget to Actual Report.

11 MR. BOVITZ: So move.

12 MS. PARKER: Support.

13 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Bovitz, support by Parker to
14 approve the Budget to Actual Report. Discussion?

15 (No response.)

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

17 motion say aye?

18 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

19 MS. PARKER: Aye.

20 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved.

23 Item 3, the 2015-2016 Final Approved Budget. It was
24 addressed in New Business.

25 Item 4, Building Official Contract, addressed in New

1 Business.

2 Item 5, City Controller Contract, addressed in New
3 Business.

4 MR. O'NEAL: Mr. Koryzno, please. With reference to
5 the City Controller contract. Presented to this board was a
6 contract for the city controller and it was done according to best
7 practices. We advertised on Michigan Municipal website. We used
8 the advertisement that was for the city of Flint. We modified it.
9 We did not ask for a CPA because we don't need one. We don't need
10 one here. I would respectfully ask per my mayor and my City
11 Council what part of the contract does not comply with the
12 emergency manager order number 94 where we went through, we did the
13 advertisement, we did the interview, we did everything according to
14 best practices. The person that we're asking for the position
15 meets the qualifications. The contract has been approved by the
16 city attorney. This is a contract that has been used by other
17 public employees.

18 We would like to know what it is about the contract
19 that does not meet the requirements of the EFM orders or the RTAB,
20 knowing full well that we did use best practices, we were
21 transparent, we only got two qualified people to apply. We can't
22 force people to apply. In Pontiac there's only two people that
23 interviewed for the treasurer's position out of I don't know how
24 many people applied and you had -- I know you extended the deadline
25 up there in Flint. These distressed cities have a hard time

1 getting people to even apply for these positions.

2 That said, what part of the contract does not meet
3 the requirements? All due respect.

4 MR. KORYZNO: You're out of order right now, Mr.
5 O'Neal so if you'd please let the Board continue with the
6 administrative letter items, we will address your concerns or I'll
7 address your question during the Board --

8 MR. O'NEAL: Will I have an opportunity to speak at
9 that time?

10 MR. KORYZNO: You can speak during public comment.

11 MR. O'NEAL: Okay.

12 MR. KORYZNO: Item 5, City Controller Contract.

13 Addressed in New Business.

14 Item 6, Sidewalk Repair Contract, addressed in New
15 Business.

16 Item 7, Lawn Maintenance Contract, addressed in New
17 Business.

18 Item 8, Purchase of a police vehicle was addressed
19 in New Business.

20 Item 9, Verizon Wireless Agreement, addressed in New
21 Business.

22 Item 10, Settlement Agreement, Fritz vs. the City of
23 Ecorse, addressed in New Business.

24 Item 11, U.S. Steel Annual Permit Agreement,
25 addressed in New Business.

1 Item 12, Department of Labor Settlement Agreement,
2 addressed in New Business.

3 Item 13, Wayne County Home Program, that was
4 informational only.

5 Item 14, Checks Released, informational only.

6 Item C, amendment to EM Order 094. Final EM Order
7 094. The Board is recommending to the state treasurer that EM
8 Order 094, Section 4 subparagraph(B) (8) be amended to read: Fulfill
9 all essential duties and responsibilities as outlined in the City
10 Administrator job description and any other controlling documents
11 that outline the powers and duties of the city administrator and
12 the amendment would include these documents notwithstanding any
13 hiring or termination of department heads, city employees or
14 individual service contracts or any job descriptions including
15 qualification are not qualifications, are not effective without
16 Board approval."

17 I'll entertain a motion.

18 MS. PARKER: I would move for the recommendation of
19 the amendment to EM Order 094.

20 MR. KORYZNO: Is there a support?

21 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

22 MR. KORYZNO: Moved by Parker, supported by Bovitz
23 to amend EM Order 094 Section 4 subparagraph(B) (8). Discussion?

24 (No response.)

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

1 motion say aye.

2 Aye.

3 MS. PARKER: Aye.

4 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

5 MR. KORYZNO: Opposed same sign?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. KORYZNO: The motion is approved.

8 Next item is public comment.

9 Mr. Van de Grift? You'll have two minutes to speak
10 per the Board's policy.

11 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Director Moore.

12 MR. MOORE: Good morning.

13 MR. KORYZNO: Good morning.

14 MR. MOORE: Item is informational only. I was a
15 little tardy, had business with the court this morning.

16 There's a grant available with the body cams. I
17 hear the item was tabled this morning. There's like a \$3 million
18 grant that's going to be available. I contacted the DCC
19 informational technology director, his name is Bob Hapt (phonetic).
20 And it comes to find out that we got together on it and we thought
21 it was a good idea if this grant was applied for as a group. And
22 we read the grant and it comes to find out that if -- there's three
23 sections of it. It's for large departments, medium sized
24 departments and small departments. Small departments are 250 or
25 less. And 250 officers are just about all of Downriver. We found

1 out that if we got together as a group and it would turn out to be
2 like a medium-sized department and either the DCC or the Downriver
3 Mutual Aid applied together we would have a better chance of
4 getting this grant. So I think that's what's going to happen is
5 that they're going to possibly apply as a group and we may end up
6 getting this grant. Well, if we get it we may not end up having to
7 spend any money to get these cameras so that's what we're going to
8 look at first. So this is informational only to let you know this
9 is on the table, this is out there.

10 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

11 MR. BOVITZ: I just like the spirit of cooperation
12 with the other police forces Downriver and especially the new
13 budget calling for more cooperation and cost savings and the City
14 of River Rouge to see that happen.

15 MR. MOORE: Yeah, and it's actually all the
16 Downriver police agencies.

17 MR. VAN de GRIFT: There are no other signatures on
18 the signup sheet. Mr. O'Neal, did you wish to speak?

19 MR. O'NEAL: I would respectfully ask not to be held
20 at two minutes and in future meetings could I have an
21 administrative section put on the agenda so that I can speak for
22 different things like that.

23 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Sure.

24 MR. O'NEAL: Again, as I indicated before there was
25 discussion as to the requirement of a CPA and I know there was

1 discussions from Ms. Parker relative to a person working in the
2 city of this size or whatever. We would like to know what it is
3 about either Mr. Sedowski as an individual or the contract that we
4 have submitted where this individual that's not qualified, why the
5 contract is flawed, why the contract can't be approved. As you know
6 the contract was approved 7-0 by the City Council. I've made the
7 recommendation under my authority to hire this individual. I can
8 vouch for the individual because I am put down as a reference for
9 this person. I've been as transparent as I can possibly be. This
10 individual is exactly what we need for this organization and quite
11 frankly I would like to know what part -- we would like to know
12 what part of the contract does not comply with the EFM order prior
13 to what you just did. We're at a loss. I will tell you that my --
14 and I'm speaking for the mayor and the Council. They're not here
15 because that would be a violation. But there is concern that the
16 TAB board is standing in the way of Ecorse moving forward and being
17 successful.

18 Now, if I misspeak myself, the Council behind me and
19 I hope that they would raise their hand and say so. I'm just the
20 liaison, I'm the ombudsman between the Council and the TAB Board
21 and I want to make sure that everybody understands this, that we
22 are trying to move Ecorse forward. We mean no disrespect for the
23 TAB Board. We want to correct the deficiencies that were in the
24 report that the Board submitted to the Governor six months ago or
25 eight months ago. We want to do that. We want to have a five year

1 balanced budget. We're trying to put the management team together.
2 Can you please help us with what is wrong with the contract and why
3 it was not approved today.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. KORYZNO: I'll respond. I responded, or I
6 stated during the time we considered the motion that I had concerns
7 that the job description did not accurately reflect the necessary
8 qualifications for this important position. And that's why I voted
9 no. If Ms. Parker wishes to say anything or Mr. Bovitz voted in
10 favor so you don't need to say anything.

11 MR. BOVITZ: That's exactly why I made the motion
12 because it looked like everything was adhered to in the
13 qualifications. Sometimes the mention of a CPA's license does not
14 necessarily -- isn't required to issue independent CPA financial
15 reports which is not required in a city of this size.

16 MS. PARKER: I guess you had raised comments about
17 the mayor and Council supporting everything and you do have three
18 members here, or two members here today and I don't know if they --

19 MR. O'NEAL: Three.

20 MS. PARKER: Oh, is there three members. Is there
21 three?

22 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yeah, I'm a member.

23 MS. PARKER: I missed it. You're a member. I don't
24 know if you have any comment but you know, again, from my
25 perspective I'm looking at best practices, what's best for the city

1 in terms of our responsibility. And I don't want to get into a
2 debate.

3 MR. KORYZNO: And we're not going to get into a
4 discussion here, Mr. O'Neal.

5 MR. O'NEAL: I understand that. And again, we've
6 know each other for a long time. Let's just put this out there.

7 MR. KORYZNO: Sure.

8 MR. O'NEAL: And Joyce, we've known each other for a
9 long time so we can agree to disagree.

10 MR. KORYZNO: Correct.

11 MR. O'NEAL: I mean, come on, let's get beyond that.
12 There ain't a whole lot of folks that want to come to Ecorse,
13 Flint, Battle Creek, Hamtramck, Highland Park, on and on and on,
14 there ain't a whole lot of folks. I remember when Darnell Early
15 called me back in around 2002, maybe it was 2001 and he was up in
16 Flint and he needed a finance director. And he called me up about
17 a person that was released from East Pointe and we talked about
18 that. And the comment that Darnell made to me was, "Wayne, there
19 ain't a whole lot of folks that want to come up here." So, that
20 said, I'm not saying anything about the guy that went up there, I'm
21 not saying that but this is the reality of it all and you get
22 somebody that fits, whether or not you get 500 applications or
23 five, if you get somebody that fits, that can do the job, you know,
24 fine. We advertised --

25 MR. BOVITZ: That's the same rationality we had

1 three months ago when we approved your, because obviously you're
2 the city's choice, you're working with the department heads for the
3 future of Ecorse. And I think if it's a good fit I think we should
4 allow it.

5 MR. O'NEAL: I'm trying. We need this guy. I mean
6 I can vouch for him. I mean I'm sticking my neck so far out, you
7 know. I mean.

8 MS. PARKER: It sounds to some extent, too, there is
9 some relationship there.

10 MR. O'NEAL: Sure there is.

11 MS. PARKER: And that's fine.

12 MR. O'NEAL: I know everybody in the state.

13 MS. PARKER: I think from my perspective as a member
14 of this Board, my issue is making sure that the city has the proper
15 support with the proper qualifications based on the job description
16 to do the job. It has nothing to do with relationships at all.

17 MR. O'NEAL: And that's --

18 MS. PARKER: And just one other comment, there may
19 not be a lot of people from your perspective that want to work in
20 Ecorse or any of the communities under receivership but that does
21 not mean that they should not get the best qualified candidates and
22 if it requires doing some things to assist with salary or whatever
23 I think that's something that should be considered but I think
24 that's not a reason why you just hire somebody, because no one else
25 wants to come.

1 MR. O'NEAL: That isn't the reason that was my
2 recommendation. My recommendation is based on 40 years of
3 experience in hiring --

4 MR. BOVITZ: It was posted for, yeah, it was posted
5 two weeks. It wasn't like with the city administrator search where
6 Michigan Municipal League was already in the process of going
7 through the search. At that time I think there was some opposition
8 because we just wanted to complete the process and then when it was
9 clear that Mr. O'Neal was the city's choice then we accepted it.
10 In this case this is hiring a city controller and just based on the
11 resume I saw and the educational qualifications I think is a
12 perfect fit.

13 MR. O'NEAL: And I'm --

14 MR. KORYZNO: Well, I think we have agreed to
15 disagree.

16 MS. PARKER: Disagree, yes.

17 MR. KORYZNO: I don't see any necessity to continue
18 the discussion for now.

19 MR. O'NEAL: Then say in all due respect I'm
20 bringing it next TAB meeting. We want this person.

21 MR. KORYZNO: That's your prerogative.

22 MR. O'NEAL: I mean.

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

24 April 7, 2015 special meeting workshop. There was a
25 City Council meeting. No minutes were taken for that meeting and I

1 want to raise that concern that any time the City Council convenes
2 in a public setting to discuss public business there's a necessity
3 that minutes be taken for those meetings.

4 In IAB Resolution 403.14, withdraw from the Wayne
5 County Library System, this item has been tabled. No further
6 action will be taken until other information is received.

7 That's all I have. Ms. Parker or Mr. Bovitz, do you
8 have anything?

9 MR. BOVITZ: No.

10 MS. PARKER: Just a comment. Mr. O'Neal had
11 mentioned that the mayor and the City Council will be meeting this
12 evening to address the advertisement for the special assessment and
13 I would ask that the mayor and the Council consider other changes
14 if necessary in the event that they decide to not move forward with
15 the millage rate as proposed.

16 MR. BOVITZ: And when you advertise the mills, do
17 you actually put in terms of real dollars what it would cost per
18 household?

19 MR. O'NEAL: We did exactly what we were supposed to
20 do the first time.

21 MR. BOVITZ: Because I think the people that are
22 staying in Ecorse that have homes, I think they will understand the
23 importance of police and fire.

24 MR. O'NEAL: Right.

25 MS. PARKER: And may I make one other comment?

1 MR. KORYZNO: Certainly.

2 MS. PARKER: Just in reference to the five-year
3 budget and this is something that I would ask that the mayor and
4 Council consider: part of what the RTAB does as far as making
5 recommendations, I'm thinking, Mr. Koryzno, about moving outside of
6 receivership is to make sure that certain pieces are in place. The
7 five-year budget is critical and I would like to see the city
8 consider doing that and getting it on the agenda for the next
9 meeting. I don't think any of us want to continue to do this ten
10 years down the road or five years down the road. The key is having
11 all the pieces in place and again having the best practices and
12 operating properly.

13 MR. BOVITZ: And that's why having a qualified city
14 controller is important to a five-year budget.

15 MS. PARKER: I agree. I agree.

16 MR. KORYZNO: I agree.

17 MS. PARKER: I agree with you on that, Mr. Bovitz.

18 MR. O'NEAL: And we need that in order to do that
19 five-year budget.

20 MR. KORYZNO: Any further comment? I'll entertain a
21 motion --

22 COUNCILMEMBER ELAM: May I ask one question, not
23 being disrespectful.

24 MR. KORYZNO: What's that Councilmember Elam?

25 COUNCILMEMBER ELAM: The question is, do you have to

1 be a CPA to be a city controller?

2 MS. PARKER: No.

3 MR. BOVITZ: No.

4 COUNCILMEMBER ELAM: And then other thing that I
5 note, that when that was brought up it seemed like it was voted on
6 twice, the first time you voted on that controller thing, I can't
7 hear too good.

8 MR. KORYZNO: Uh-huh.

9 COUNCILMEMBER ELAM: It appeared like anybody voted
10 for it and then something else came up on it?

11 MR. KORYZNO: Uh-uh.

12 COUNCILMEMBER ELAM: Right after that on it?

13 MR. KORYZNO: Uh-uh. No. There was just one vote.

14 COUNCILMEMBER ELAM: Well, what other general
15 qualifications that you want are you looking for in a city
16 controller? Do you have a qualifications that weren't being met
17 that you agreed to for the city controller?

18 MR. KORYZNO: I guess we'll discuss that in the
19 future, Councilmember Elam.

20 COUNCILMEMBER ELAM: That's it.

21 MR. KORYZNO: All right. Thank you. I'll entertain
22 a motion to adjourn?

23 MS. PARKER: So moved.

24 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

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

1 all in favor of the motion say aye.

2 MS. PARKER: Aye.

3 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

4 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign, meeting is
5 adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

6 (At 10:12 a.m. meeting adjourned.)

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13 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: May 22, 2015

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15 s/Amy Shankleton-Novess

16

17 _____
Amy Shankleton-Novess (CER 0838)

18 Certified Electronic Reporter

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