

City of Ecorse  
Receivership Transition Advisory Board Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, July 12th, 2016  
Ecorse City Hall  
Council Chambers  
Albert B. Buday Civic Center  
3869 West Jefferson  
Ecorse, Michigan 48229

RTAB MEMBERS PRESENT:

**ROBERT BOVITZ**  
**JEFF SYKES**  
**JOAN BROPHY**

ALSO PRESENT:

DREW VAN DE GRIFT  
Michigan Department of Treasury

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/nel

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

**Called to order at 9:00 a.m.**

**July 12, 2016- Ecorse, Michigan**

**\* \* \* \* \***

MR. SYKES: All right, so I'll call the City of Ecorse Receivership Transition Advisory Board meeting to order for Tuesday, July 12th, 2016.

Mr. Van de Grift, please do the roll call.

MR. VAN de GRIFT: Robert Bovitz.

MR. BOVITZ: Here.

MR. VAN de GRIFT: Joan Brophy.

MS. BROPHY: Here.

MR. VAN de GRIFT: Jeff Sykes.

MR. SYKES: Here.

MR. VAN de GRIFT: All present.

MR. SYKES: Okay, so the first item's going to be the approval of agenda. I'll entertain a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

MS. BROPHY: Support.

MR. SYKES: Any discussion?

(No response)

MR. SYKES: Seeing none, all those in favor the motion say aye. Aye.

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MS. BROPHY: Aye.

1 MR. SYKES: Opposed, the same.

2 (No response)

3 MR. SYKES: The agenda is approved as presented.

4 At this time, I'd like to remind the audience  
5 that if you intend to speak during the public comment  
6 portion of the meeting, it'll be necessary for you to come  
7 up and, to the podium, and sign up. Okay.

8 Next item, approval of RTAB minutes of July 14,  
9 2016. Entertain a motion.

10 MS. BROPHY: I'll move to approve the ~~July 14th,~~  
11 2016 RTAB minutes.

12 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

13 MR. SYKES: Any discussion?

14 (No response)

15 MR. SYKES: Seeing none, those in favor the  
16 motion say aye. Aye.

17 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

18 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

19 MR. SYKES: Opposed, the same.

20 (No response)

21 MR. SYKES: The minutes are approved as  
22 presented.

23 There is no old business, so we'll move on to  
24 new business. First is the approval of resolutions and  
25 ordinances of city council meetings. Resolution from the

1 regular city meeting -- or city council meeting, of May  
2 24th, 2016. I'll entertain a motion to approve the  
3 resolution from the May 24th, 2016 regular city council  
4 meeting.

5 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

6 MS. BROPHY: Support.

7 MR. SYKES: Any discussion? And, I actually do  
8 have a couple of questions regarding some of the things  
9 that were discussed during that meeting. I think -- I'm  
10 trying to figure out who would be best to answer that  
11 question, so possibly is it Tim Sadowski or Mr. Flaten, to  
12 answer this? And really, what it has to do with is the --  
13 it's just, maybe, to help maybe figure out exactly what it  
14 is I'm looking at.

15 It has to do with the proposal for the lawn  
16 maintenance. So what I did is, had gone through the  
17 package of information, and I was given a memo that shows  
18 how it was determined that there would be savings that are  
19 included. And I compared that to what was in the budget,  
20 in amendments that were in the budget, and most of it  
21 lined up. But, who would be best to answer that question?  
22 Would you? Would it -- are you comfortable with coming  
23 forward?

24 MR. FLATEN: Sure.

25 MR. SYKES: It probably would be easier to show,

1 a little bit, of what I'm talking about here. And so,  
2 there is a couple of items that line up real nicely, so  
3 here's the memo.

4 MR. FLATEN: I was kind of hoping it all did.

5 MR. SYKES: What's that?

6 MR. FLATEN: I was kind of hoping it all did.

7 MR. SYKES: Yeah. Oh, it does, I think. So,  
8 here's what I was kind of comparing it to. And, let me  
9 just really quickly point that out. There's a couple of  
10 items in there, the retirement payment and health  
11 insurance, that weren't included. And I just wanted to  
12 make sure that that wasn't an oversight. In determining  
13 the savings, that -- that are being made by bringing this  
14 work in house.

15 MR. FLATEN: Well, we bring this in, but these  
16 people are working less than the normal hours, so they  
17 would not be eligible for the health insurance.

18 MR. SYKES: Okay, so then, the pension, and the  
19 health, those items were for the other workers within that  
20 category? So that was intentionally excluded from the  
21 cost savings analysis?

22 MR. FLATEN: Right.

23 MR. SYKES: Okay, that's perfect.

24 MR. FLATEN: This was done entirely to try and  
25 save some money. And to have the city -- if we get the

1 additional help, and then during the summer months,  
2 they're out cutting grass and doing all that and bringing  
3 everything -- in the winter months, we're going to have  
4 the out doing other things. Working on this building,  
5 doing some water -- you know, they can go out and read  
6 meters and so forth and help us out there. The other  
7 people that we've had for a while are doing other things.

8 MR. SYKES: Okay. No, that makes good sense. I  
9 just wanted to make sure that this did line up correctly,  
10 and that those two items were omitted intentionally.  
11 Thank you very much.

12 Okay, so with that, is there any other  
13 discussion?

14 (No response)

15 MR. SYKES: Seeing none, those in favor the  
16 motion say aye. Aye.

17 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

18 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

19 MR. SYKES: Opposed, the same.

20 (No response)

21 MR. SYKES: The motion is approved.

22 Next item is a resolution from the regular city  
23 council meeting of June 7th, 2016. I'll entertain a  
24 motion to approve the resolution from the regular city  
25 council meeting of June 7th, 2016.

1 MS. BROPHY: So moved.

2 MR. BOVITZ: Support.

3 MR. SYKES: Any discussion?

4 (No response)

5 MR. SYKES: Seeing none, those in favor the  
6 motion say aye. Aye.

7 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

8 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

9 MR. SYKES: Opposed, the same.

10 (No response)

11 MR. SYKES: Motion is approved.

12 The next item, claims and accounts from regular  
13 city council meeting draft minutes of June 21st, 2016.  
14 I'll entertain a motion to approve the claims and accounts  
15 from the regular city council meeting draft minutes of  
16 June 21st, 2016.

17 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

18 MS. BROPHY: Support.

19 MR. SYKES: Any discussion?

20 (No response)

21 MR. SYKES: Seeing none, those in favor the  
22 motion say aye. Aye.

23 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

24 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

25 MR. SYKES: Opposed, the same.

1 (No response)

2 MR. SYKES: And that motion is approved.

3 Next item is the city administrator items.

4 Approval of the city council minutes, addressed in new  
5 business. Do I need to do anything on this one? Just go  
6 through...okay. Approval, number two, approval of DPW  
7 proposed lawn maintenance services, which was addressed in  
8 new business, which was discussed.

9 Next we have items three through seven, requests  
10 for approval of new hires. Again, on these, is this --

11 MS. BROPHY: No, this -- I'll move to approve  
12 the new hires.

13 MR. BOVITZ: So you want to do it all in one  
14 motion?

15 MS. BROPHY: Can we do it all in one? Yeah?

16 MR. BOVITZ: Sure, I'll support.

17 MR. SYKES: Any discussion?

18 (No response)

19 MS. BROPHY: I just had a question.

20 MR. SYKES: Okay.

21 MS. BROPHY: I noted on a couple of the memos,  
22 it was indicated that employees had passed the screening  
23 tests; I can't remember exactly what the terms was they  
24 used but, on a couple it didn't indicate that, so I was  
25 curious as to why -- whether that was done?

1 MR. FLATEN: You mean just the omissions --  
2 everything has been done, they're set for physicals, we  
3 got their application and they'll get the records check  
4 and all and be approved.

5 MS. BROPHY: Okay.

6 MR. FLATEN: Yeah, one thing we don't want to do  
7 is bring somebody in that hasn't had a physical, and find  
8 out later on that they were injured in some fashion, prior  
9 to coming here, and that injury would just kind of roll  
10 over, and that they could hurt themselves here and we  
11 would become obligated on worker's compensation concerning  
12 that issue.

13 MS. BROPHY: But I think my questions to chair  
14 was more, it's been done for all five employees, then?

15 MR. FLATEN: Pardon me?

16 MS. BROPHY: It's been done for all five  
17 employees, then? Is that correct?

18 MR. FLATEN: Chief, did you send your guys for  
19 physicals?

20 MR. MOORE: Yes, I did.

21 MS. BROPHY: Okay.

22 MR. SYKES: Okay, any more discussion?

23 (No response)

24 MR. BOVITZ: Just a, I know last month we had  
25 quite a few terminations and there was some discussion

1 about potential lawsuits; maybe if the city attorney  
2 would, any comments on any follow up since last meeting on  
3 that?

4 MR. WYCOFF: Yes. In fact, we have received  
5 some lawsuits. We have one that came in on the Dante Love  
6 case. There was a Lottie Thomas that was terminated; I  
7 think she was before last week. But there's a claim, an  
8 administrative claim that's been brought on that one. I'm  
9 not too concerned about either of those at this time. We  
10 are looking at those -- maybe I should --

11 MR. BOVITZ: Yeah, for the record, you probably  
12 should state who --

13 MR. WYCOFF: I apologize. I'm Charles Wycoff,  
14 and I'm the city attorney.

15 We have received, as a result of those  
16 violations, we've received a number of different claims.  
17 For example, we've received some unemployment compensation  
18 claims; we have received one civil suit for wrongful  
19 termination. I will just briefly tell you that the person  
20 was an at will employee; there was an inability to insure  
21 them for driving a vehicle. I -- he has filed suit; I'm  
22 not too concerned on that.

23 The lady whose name I mentioned previously, she  
24 was driving a senior citizen bus; she has filed a civil  
25 rights claim based on equal pay and I believe age, but

1 don't hold me 100 percent to that. That claim has been  
2 responded to; we have asked for a conciliation conference  
3 with EEOC. I have not received a response on that.

4 We have two police officer terminations. One  
5 is headed to formal arbitration and the other one we  
6 anticipate a suit; we have not received it yet. It seems  
7 to be a cottage industry in the city, and we're trying to  
8 change that spectrum. That answer? Thank you.

9 MR. BOVITZ: From a personnel standpoint, with  
10 the part time hires, are we up to full strength, as much  
11 as we should be?

12 MR. WYCOFF: No. You will recall that you  
13 authorized the employment of three part time police  
14 officers. Before we could get through the process, two of  
15 them accepted employment somewhere else, and then the only  
16 one that's left, you're approving today. So we have some  
17 more personnel in that area, and I can't speak to the DPW;  
18 I don't know.

19 MR. SYKES: Any further discussion?

20 (No response)

21 MR. SYKES: Seeing none, those in favor the  
22 motion say aye. Aye.

23 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

24 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

25 MR. SYKES: Opposed, the same.

1 (No response)

2 MR. SYKES: This motion is approved.

3 Next item is budget to actual report, 2016. Mr.  
4 Van de Grift, can you have some additional comments on  
5 this item?

6 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Certainly.

7 Recognizing how important it is for the city  
8 council to review monthly financial documents, Emergency  
9 Manager Parker, in her final order, set up a system where  
10 the city council would review budget to actual each month,  
11 and make a recommendation for approval by this board. But  
12 it looks like this month, that didn't happen, and there  
13 wasn't review by the city council, so, you have received  
14 the budget to actual report, and so you're welcome to you  
15 know, receive and file it but you know, it really should  
16 have gone through the city council first, and think it's  
17 our hope that in the future, it will, just so that  
18 everyone sees the documents and is aware of the financial  
19 condition of the city as it moves forward.

20 MR. SYKES: Okay, thank you.

21 Next is amendments to budget fiscal year '16-17.  
22 While this action occurred during a city council meeting  
23 outside of the normal review period of today's board  
24 meeting, the city administrator's request to bring this  
25 item forward for early review is merited.

1           Mr. Flaten, please provide a summary of this  
2 item for the board.

3           MR. FLATEN: This is your operating budget for  
4 fiscal year '16-'17 --

5           MR. VAN de GRIFT: Pardon me, Mr. Flaten, is it  
6 possible for you to take the podium?

7           MR. FLATEN: It is your budget for fiscal for  
8 '16-'17, for all funds that are necessary to be included.  
9 The revenues solely are, for the most part, based upon the  
10 tax revenue of the city, which there was a significant  
11 reduction in taxable value which significantly lowered the  
12 amount of tax revenue.

13           Budget adjustments were -- we looked through the  
14 whole thing, we made adjustments where we could make them,  
15 made cuts where we could make them. And it's evident, by,  
16 as you see, with some of the part time personnel that  
17 we're hiring as opposed to picking up full time personnel.  
18 Our biggest cost in the future is going to be pension, as  
19 some of your pension fund is not funded properly, and  
20 others are just unfunded in total.

21           There's significant increases coming in the  
22 future years, and -- but it's a budget that we can work  
23 with, it's a budget that I think we'll be comfortable  
24 with. All the bond requirements are met, in terms of  
25 having the revenue that's necessary to meet those bond

1 payments.

2 The water department is in good shape. It's  
3 your general fund that is being attacked by reduction in  
4 values on property.

5 MR. SYKES: Okay. I have a question that I'd  
6 like to bring up; it's a little outside of this, but it  
7 has to do with the five year forecast that was worked out?  
8 So one of the things that I was looking at is the forecast  
9 in connection also with the budget that's in place. And  
10 we have some instances where there's some pay raises, and  
11 I understand that, you know, in order to maintain  
12 individuals, that's key. But we also see then, going  
13 forward in that five year budget, is that there's some  
14 deficit. So, I just wanted to make sure that we're taking  
15 that into consideration when we're making these types of  
16 decision.

17 And then, also, when we do the five year  
18 projections, and you see where there's a deficit, if you  
19 could include, also, what the recommendation is to shore  
20 up that deficit, if there has to be a cut in expenses at  
21 some point?

22 MR. FLATEN: Sure.

23 MR. SYKES: If these actual results come to  
24 fruition, that we have an idea of how those shortfalls are  
25 going to be resolved.

1 MR. FLATEN: Okay, I'll work with Tim on that,  
2 and get you some information on it.

3 MR. SYKES: Okay.

4 MR. FLATEN: Because I -- I think, you know,  
5 what we like to do, or what I like to do, and am  
6 accustomed to doing, is that, as you go through your year,  
7 now that the budget is started and you start to see that  
8 things are happening, and accounts could probably go over  
9 budget. We make the budget adjustments at that time, when  
10 we first become aware of it, and then we'll have to adjust  
11 that five year forecast to pick that up, and see how  
12 that's going to reflect on succeeding years.

13 So that's the way we're going to be working  
14 that. That way, we have no fear of us running in the  
15 hole, you might say, or we're -- every attempt that we're  
16 making to balance that budget, and adjust it, so that we  
17 don't have accounts that are exceeding what we originally  
18 planned. If they do, we'll make adjustments to those,  
19 using other accounts.

20 MR. SYKES: And I think it's a real burden for  
21 you, but what you've done here with the five year  
22 forecast, I think that makes a lot of sense.

23 MR. FLATEN: I take no credit for the five year  
24 forecast; that's Tim.

25 MR. SYKES: Nice work, Tim. All right, thank

1 you. I'll entertain a motion to approve the amendments to  
2 the budget for fiscal year '16-'17.

3 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

4 MS. BROPHY: Support.

5 MR. SYKES: Any further discussion?

6 MR. BOVITZ: I know a few months ago, there was  
7 concern about the millage on the police and fire, the  
8 increase, and, has there been any negative response to  
9 that? I know you had their public hearings, but I noticed  
10 the public safety budget's been cut, and the, with the  
11 millage being increased, is that money being diverted to  
12 other areas in the city budget, Mr. Flaten or Mr.  
13 Sadowski, any comment about that?

14 MR. SADOWSKI: Tim Sadowski, city controller.  
15 Property taxable values have dropped significantly, to the  
16 point that even though we are at 75 mills on the tax roll  
17 citywide, people have seen several hundred dollar drop in  
18 their tax bills. So even though I bumped up the millage  
19 rate over ten mills this fiscal year, most people are  
20 saving several hundred dollars on their tax bill.

21 And it will continue to go on that forward.  
22 We've dropped down to \$118 million, and we'll go down to  
23 at least another, drop another five, just in personal  
24 property again next year, and so forth. So, we have a  
25 taxable projection, and it's very -- I don't know how you

1 stabilize a tax base of a city that had over \$300 million  
2 down to being almost at \$100 million.

3 Stabilizing the tax base is probably the -- one  
4 of the most highest priorities for the city, and then,  
5 MERS is right along --

6 MR. BOVITZ: Ms. Parker had some concerns about  
7 the procedure in the past, we're all pretty new here; I  
8 feel like I'm -- I'm low in the institution of knowledge.  
9 But were there still concerns as far as, you know, for the  
10 procedure of how the millage increase was advertised to  
11 the residents, and was there any setback on that?

12 MR. SADOWSKI: We didn't have any public comment  
13 in the city council -- at the city council meeting for  
14 that agenda item. Like I said, people keep seeing their  
15 tax bills go down.

16 MR. BOVITZ: So the key is, the net amount  
17 they're paying is less, and so no one really notices that  
18 the millage is increased?

19 MR. SADOWSKI: Correct.

20 MR. BOVITZ: Okay.

21 MR. SADOWSKI: Most people just look at the  
22 bottom line on their tax bill, and the tax bill went down;  
23 they really don't divide out what they're paying for. And  
24 usually those go to assessing, those questions go to  
25 assessing if they those questions. But most people just

1 look at the bottom line, and see that they're tax bill's  
2 going down every year, so.

3 We've had people come and ask if their taxes --  
4 tax value to go up because they're trying to sell the  
5 properties, and when you have a taxable value of \$10,000  
6 to \$12,000 on your house -- most peoples' cars are higher  
7 than their house, in taxable value.

8 So that's our overall concern, is that, where is  
9 the bottom of the tax base?

10 MR. SYKES: Okay, any further discussion?

11 (No response)

12 MR. SYKES: Okay, hearing none, all those in  
13 favor of the motion say aye. Aye.

14 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

15 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

16 MR. SYKES: Opposed, the same.

17 (No response)

18 MR. SYKES: Motion's approved. Next we have the  
19 purchase of two E-T-N-A water readers. And while this  
20 action item occurred during city council meeting outside  
21 the normal review of the period of today's board meeting,  
22 city council -- or, city administrator's request to bring  
23 the items forward for early review is merited. Mr.  
24 Flaten, please provide a summary of these items for the  
25 board.

1 MR. FLATEN: We have meters, water meters, and  
2 they're read with a handheld instrument. Sometimes those  
3 instruments start to malfunction, and you don't get a  
4 proper reading. And if you do get an improper reading,  
5 there could be a number of reasons for it. Either the  
6 meter will read -- users that we have is malfunctioning,  
7 or there's a problem inside the house, that we need to get  
8 into.

9 DPW director, Wayne Maier, brought it to my  
10 attention, that these instruments may be malfunctioning,  
11 and that we should look into purchasing two new ones,  
12 along with scanners and so forth. Those readers, as they  
13 get older, do tend to malfunction. Is it a high cost?  
14 Yes. We have right now, one meter -- one reader, that's  
15 working sufficiently, and we have one reader that is on  
16 loan from the company, ETNA, which we would purchase this  
17 from.

18 We choose to purchase from ETNA because ETNA is  
19 a regional supplier to everybody else, of these meter  
20 readers. And therefore, there's no cost savings to us if  
21 we were to go outside with a bid, and seek a price from  
22 other companies. So we stuck with ETNA, and it may now,  
23 after we have reread another zone, that we may not have to  
24 buy both of those. We may only need to buy one.

25 And if that's the case, that's fine, but at

1 least council has been made aware, you are made aware, of  
2 the fact that those are probably not going to last. The  
3 ones that we have. And we will need to purchase them at  
4 some point, but if we can hold the cost down at this time,  
5 we will.

6 The other thing is, is that when I first came  
7 here, I was presented with the possibility of putting new  
8 water meters in all houses, which are radio scanned. And  
9 if there's a problem, where if some -- there's tampering,  
10 with those meters, we would know that. It would come  
11 through on a scan, it would tell us instantly that  
12 somebody is either cutting wires or changing pipe, or  
13 whatever.

14 And we can go to that location, and stop it.  
15 Because really, it's a theft of water. Some people have  
16 what are called straight pipes, where you disconnect the  
17 pipe from the meter itself and just let the water run into  
18 the house, and you get no reading at all. So it's a  
19 problem.

20 So what we did, is, yeah. I asked for \$21,500  
21 to replace the two, along with other equipment that's  
22 necessary. But in talking with Wayne, perhaps we don't  
23 need to do that at this time. So, if you approve that, I  
24 think you can rest assured that we're not going to spend  
25 the whole \$21,500 if we don't have to.

1 MR. SYKES: Thank you. I'll entertain a motion,  
2 to approve, deny, or postpone the purchase of the two new  
3 ETNA water readers.

4 MR. BOVITZ: I move that we approve the two new  
5 water meters, at the discretion of the city  
6 administration.

7 MS. BROPHY: Support.

8 MR. SYKES: Okay, any further discussion?

9 (No response)

10 MR. SYKES: No? Okay, all those in favor of the  
11 motion say aye. Aye.

12 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

13 MS. BROPHY: Aye.

14 MR. SYKES: Opposed, the same.

15 (No response)

16 MR. SYKES: Motion is approved. Let's see, what  
17 we have next is public comment.

18 MR. VAN de GRIFT: No public comment.

19 MR. SYKES: Okay, the next item is board  
20 comment.

21 MR. BOVITZ: Last month, there was the -- the  
22 Hennessy contract was basically tabled, for them to  
23 readdress the renovations at the park, on the concession.  
24 Has there been any action on that?

25 MR. FLATEN: I've received drawings -- received

1 drawings on that, where we had asked Hennessy to include a  
2 concession area, in the Dingell Building. I just received  
3 those, and I received the cost on that, yesterday, from  
4 Hennessy. Cost on that increased from their original  
5 \$199,000 to \$228,000. The reason being, the building's  
6 been slightly extended in size, which would call for an  
7 adjustment to the footings.

8 Some walls that would have to be put into the  
9 structure for the concession area, that added some cost  
10 also. And when -- any time you add costs to your  
11 contract, there's always that percentage that goes to the  
12 engineers, that increased also. But that's where we're  
13 at. I will be contacting Detroit Edison, to let them know  
14 that we have this plan, but I first must talk to the  
15 recreation director, and to Councilman Banks, who has been  
16 spearheading this to get it done. And let them see what  
17 the new plans are, and the costs, and we'll talk to  
18 Edison, and see what we have to do about getting  
19 construction started.

20 MR. BOVITZ: And the reason for all this was  
21 because of the natural gas explosion, back in the --

22 MR. FLATEN: Yep.

23 MR. BOVITZ: And so, the park's probably not  
24 fully functional at this point, for the residents?

25 MR. FLATEN: Well, in the sense that you have no

1 structure there to use as a concession area, or even as a  
2 restroom facility, yes.

3 MR. BOVITZ: And then how about the boat launch?  
4 Because I know the former city administrator was concerned  
5 that there was no private contractor that would take it  
6 on, because it's just not profitable. Is the city able to  
7 manage the boat launch?

8 MR. FLATEN: I'll let Wayne answer that, but,  
9 the way I see it, Bob, is yeah, we can manage that. There  
10 needs to be some adjustments made to that structurally,  
11 too, in terms of paths and so forth that need to be taken  
12 care of. But it can be. But, is it profitable? Up to  
13 this point, it hasn't been used that much. And even  
14 though you have these nice warm days and everything, it's  
15 still not -- we're not getting the people in there. So.  
16 Wayne, you have anything to add?

17 MR. MAIER: Only -- Wayne Maier, DPW director.  
18 The only thing, we had a gentleman down there from March,  
19 April -- I'm sorry. April, May and June. We employed him  
20 for \$15 an hour. He was able to make enough money to pay  
21 himself. Profitable? No, it was not profitable this  
22 year.

23 Weather conditions, fishing conditions, all  
24 mitigating factors in the boat launch. I had since closed  
25 the boat launch June 30th before -- for the rest of the

1 season, for repairs. It needs about \$40,000 in repairs,  
2 for it to be open for next season. That's minimal at this  
3 point. So it is not open at this time; that's about where  
4 we're at with that. Just, it's closed for repairs. And I  
5 didn't hear all the other questions, so I apologize.

6 MR. BOVITZ: I was just concerned, you know,  
7 quality of life issues in the city, that the residents can  
8 actually enjoy the park, and that the fishermen can get  
9 out and launch their boats.

10 MR. MAIER: Well, they are. They're using the  
11 surrounding ones. Back towards the end of June, there was  
12 maybe two to three a day. That was it, that were using  
13 the ramp. So, Mr. Flaten and I made the decision to go  
14 ahead and close it and get the repairs done. Hopefully,  
15 next season will be a better season. That's all we can  
16 look forward to. But it is a vital part of our community,  
17 absolutely, to keep that open. We plan on doing that.  
18 Make it a little nicer for next year, if the money's  
19 there.

20 MR. BOVITZ: Okay.

21 MR. SYKES: Any further board comment?

22 MS. BROPHY: I have no comment.

23 MR. SYKES: All right, last item is adjournment.  
24 There is no further business, so I'll entertain a motion  
25 to adjourn.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

MS. BROPHY: So moved.

MR. BOVITZ: Support.

MR. SYKES: All right, all those in favor of the motion say aye. Aye.

MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MS. BROPHY: Aye.

MR. SYKES: Opposed, the same.

(No response)

MR. SYKES: Motion's approved.

(Proceedings conclude at 9:29 a.m.)

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COUNTY OF WASHTENAW ) .ss

I certify that this transcript is a complete, true, and correct transcript to the best of my ability of the RTAB meeting held on July 12, 2016, City of Ecorse. I also certify that I am not a relative or employee of the parties involved and have no financial interest in this case.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: July 21, 2016

*s/ Amy Shankleton-Novess*

---

Amy Shankleton-Novess (CER 0838)  
Certified Electronic Reporter