

**CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH  
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA  
UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES  
MUNICIPAL COMPLEX COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2015 AT 5:00 P.M.**

(The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood words due to the recording quality.)

[Gavel]

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDON:** Welcome everyone to the City of Riviera Beach. Tonight we have our Utility Special District Board Meeting. Madam Clerk, roll call please.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Chairperson Dawn Pardo?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDON:** Present.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Chair Pro Tern Terence Davis? Board Member Bruce Guyton?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Here.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member KaShamba Miller?

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Present.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Cedrick Thomas?

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Here?

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** City Manager Ruth Jones?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** Present.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Executive Director Louis Aurigemma?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Here.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** District Clerk Claudene Anthony is present. District Attorney Pamela Ryan?

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** Here.

**INVOCATION**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. We have a quorum. I'd like to invite everyone to stand for a moment of silence followed by the Pledge.

[Moment of silence]

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** I pledge allegiance...

**ALL:** ... to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Let the record reflect that Councilman Davis is now on the dais.

**ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, SUBSTITUTIONS**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Ms. Jones, do we have any additions, deletions or substitutions to the Agneda?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** No, Madam Chair.

**DISCLOSURES BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Do we have any disclosures by the Board or by Staff? [Pause].

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Do we have a motion to adopt the Agenda?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** So move.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Second.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Properly moved and second. Madam Clerk.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Miller?

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Guyton?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Thomas?

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Vice Chair Davis?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Chair Pardo?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Unanimous vote.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Thank you. Consent Agenda. All matters listed under this Item are considered to be routine and action will be taken by one motion. There will be no separation discussion of these Items unless a Board Member so requests in which event, the Item will be removed from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence on the Agenda. Do we have a motion to accept...

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes, ma'am.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** I wanna pull No. 1. Alright. Anything else? Do we have a motion to accept Consent with Item 1 pulled?

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** So move.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Second.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Alright. Madam Clerk.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Miller?

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Guyon?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Thomas?

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Vice Chair Davis?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Chair Pardo?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Unanimous vote.

**1. A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, AI)THORIZING THE DISTRICT TO APPROVE AMENDMENT NUMBER ONE OF THE AGREEMENT WITH PUBLIC RESOURCES MANAGEMENT GROUP, INC. TO PROVIDE UTILITY RATE AND FINANCIAL CONSULTING SERVICES; AND AUTHORIZING THE UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRPERSON AND DISTRICT CLERK TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT NUMBER ONE; AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR TO MAKE PAYMENT OF \$4,859.07 FROM 411-117-546-0-3406; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Thank you. Item 1.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the City of Riviera Beach, Utility Special District, Palm Beach County, FL authorizing the District to approve Amendment No. 1 of the agreement with Public Resources Management Group, Inc. to provide a utility rate and financial consulting services and authorizing the Utility District Board Chairperson and District Clerk to execute Amendment No. 1 authorizing the District Finance Direct to make payment in the amount of \$4,859.07 form account number 4-1-1-1-1-7-5-4-6-0-3-4-0-6 and provide an Effective Date.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** So move.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Second.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Okay, Ms. Miller. Do you want a presentation?

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Yes.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Mr. Aurigemma.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Okay. PRMG was our water and wastewater rate consultant. It went through a proper selection process and they had prepared the water, wastewater rate study for fiscal year 2015. They were ready... [moves mic]. Okay. They, they were ready to present water, water rate, water wastewater rate study for fiscal year 2015 but it got pushed back, basically, due to the election. So, we had the new Board come in and because we're considering later on in the Agenda the water, wastewater rate and its study for fiscal year 2016, there had to be some adjustments made to that study.

So, with that, there was a little bit of additional work to the tune of \$4,800 plus or minus.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** How much of the \$47,000 has already been spent?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Excuse me?

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** How much of the \$47,000 has already been spent?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** All of it.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Okay. So, all of it.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Yes, ma'am.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Um, was this something that we could have foreseen to possibly not have to add this additional amount to it or is it something that just kinda crept up on you.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** If it was considered last year...

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Mhmm.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Then we wouldn't have the additional work.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Okay. Thank you.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes, sir.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mr. Aurigemma, how much time can you tell us was actually spent on this particular study?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Overall on this study?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Or, the one that justifies the [pause] this Amendment amount.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Well, the, what, what had to be done was they needed to take the new information, the, the fiscal year 2015 information...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mhmm.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ... run all those numbers and then come up with...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Wait. Hold on a second. Sir, you need to move back.

**UNK:** Okay.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** And, do we have a police officer here? Can someone find out where the officer is? Okay. Go ahead. I'm sorry, Mr. Aurigemma.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** So, so there was some additional information that needed to be received from water billing. All those numbers needed to be crunched and then the new water, wastewater rates needed to be produced.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Okay.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Because they weren't the same as the other ones. So, wanted to make sure that it was fair, equitable and that it met everything.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** So, how much time from start to finish?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Uh...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** How many months, weeks, hours?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Well, it, it was approximately two months' worth of time but it, it wasn't full-time but it was, you know...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** I'm, I'm...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ... it was...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** No.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** From about March, March through...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** To now?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** May, of...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mhmm.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ... 2015, is when they continued with the study.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Thank you. That'll be all.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Uh, I have one more question.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Go ahead, Ms. Miller.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Did the original solicitation have where they could make amendments in it?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Yes.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Okay. And, was that provided for the backup? The original...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Yes, ma'am.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** ...solicitation? Okay. It just wasn't here. Okay. Thank you.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Alright. Anyone else? Alright. Madam Clerk.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Miller?

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** No.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Guyton?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Thomas?

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Vice Chair Davis?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** No.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Chair Pardo?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** That motion is approved with Board Members Davis and Miller dissenting.

### **AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Thank you. That is the end of the Consent Agenda. Awards and Presentations.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** None.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Public Hearings?

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** None.

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

**3. A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 BUDGET FOR THE UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Regular Agenda. Item 3.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the City of Riviera Beach Utility Special District, Palm Beach County, Florida adopting the fiscal year 2015-2016 budget for the Utility Special District and provide an Effective Date.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Is there a motion?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** So move.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Is there a s'...

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Second.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Alright. Ms. Jones.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** Yes. What you have before you is the Board Agenda for the Utility Special District. I will ask Randy Sherman, the Director of Finance and



Administration to highlight what is in this particular budget and this was the budget for 2015-16.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Good evening, sir.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Good evening. Randy Sherman, District Finance Director. I do have slides if you want me to go s'.., through slides and you can see the actual numbers but I will tell you that, as you know, we've had a number of budget presentations. The only thing that we have changed since we presented this budget on August 3rd, we have updated it for the changes that the Council approved such as health insurance. We did tweak the revenues slightly. We have put in the Pension Obligation Bond portions that the Utility District will be paying so, again, we've adjusted their pension numbers in their debt.

But at the end of the day, the numbers really haven't changed significantly. And let me just throw up this one slide. So, as you can see, the Utility Special District budge, it's at twenty-four, almost \$24.4 million. There's a \$2,500,000 budget for renewal and replacement. Impact fees are at 8.2 but, as you can see there, almost the entire amount is really the reserves that, you know, the District is holding that, you know, they're.., they spend as they go. Uh, and then again, the debt service number is that \$1.77 million.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Do we have any questions by Council?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes, Mr. Guyton?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** I don't know if Mr. Sherman or Mr. Aurigemma, there was discussion about increasing the senior citizen assistance program equal to the potential increase in the wastewater and stormwater increases. It's was about \$7.00, if I'm not mistaken. Seven and some change. Was that factored into this budge here?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** No.

**UNK:** [Inaudible].

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** This budget doesn't have any water, wastewater rate increase other than the, the previous ten year...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** No, no, no, no, no. I understand that. No.

**UNK:** [Inaudible background discussion]

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Okay.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** I'm talking...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Yeah.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** ...about the senior citizen program. Those are separate programs, I understand that. We're considering an increase in those and we had a discussion about increasing the senior citizen assistance program to the amount that those areas may possibly be increased to offset it for the senior citizens.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** That budge amount is in this budge and we will be bringing you the Senior Utility Assistance Program at the October meeting.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Mhmm.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** And, one of the changes that I've made from the last time, we had a, an actual dollar amount the last but what we're going to do is tie it to the base rate. So...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** [Inaudible].

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ...as the base rate goes up, so will the...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** So will...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ...assistance.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** ..the assistance.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** So, it'll be, it'll be an automatic amount. If it goes up two (2%) percent, it goes up two percent. If go'.., if it stays the same, it stays the same. So, it'll be tied to whatever that future base rate is.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Okay.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Okay.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** And I'll be bringing that at the next.., the October Utility District Board meeting.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Now, some senior citizens have indicated to me that the criteria, and I'm not sure, was such that they didn't qualify even though they were low income. Could we, as a Board, take a look at that to...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Well, one of the other items that I was going to bring forward is part of the Senior Utility Assistance Program was that it was

under the very low income statistic for Palm Beach County and we wanted to move it up to what was called low income. So, that would move the threshold up for the minimum which, in the past, some of these people that you're speaking about did not meet that qualification.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Mhmm.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** But in the future they will be. They'll still be considered low income...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Okay.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Just not very low income. So...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Okay.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ...we will present that to you at the October Board Meeting.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Okay. And let me just clarify. So, the potential increase in the stormwater and wastewater rates, the senior citizen utility amount would be increased by that amount as well?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Yeah. That's only for the water, wastewater side, the utility side. It doesn't affect the stormwater side.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Ah, wait. Let's back up. It does not affect the stormwater side but we discussed increasing it...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Well, that, that's a, that's not part of the Utility District. We have water and...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Okay...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ...wastewater and then the stormwater's...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Okay. Okay.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ...is a separate enterprise fund.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Understood. But, we the, the stormwater side, Ms., Ms. Jones, there was the discussion just about just bringing it under Utility, just increasing \$7.00 or whatever the amount was. Is there another plan now?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** The other plan is that there's got to be another funding source identified in the sotrmwater budget to address that amount of money for the population under stormwater. Because...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Okay.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** ... they are separate entities and...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Understood.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** ... separate budgets, we had to put.., what you'll see is two budget numbers where the funds will be pulled from.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Okay. But, you're gonna bring a plan back to address that?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** Yes. That goes, the October.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Okay. Alright. Thank you.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** I have a question.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Go ahead.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Madam Chair.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes, Ms. Miller.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** This fiscal budge,, does it include the rate increase and the bond to fix our piping infrastructure?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** No, ma'am.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** No? Okay.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay? Anything else?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes, Mr. Davis.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Is there anything in here significant that we haven't discussed that may have changed, in this budge? Anything that we may not, may not ha'.., have discussed as this Board, that would be in here?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** No. I think, I think we discussed everything at the last budget meeting.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Okay. That'll be all.  
[Inaudible background comments]

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** *Ad nauseum.* Okay. Madam Clerk.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Miller?

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Guyton?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Thomas?

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Vice Chair Davis?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Chair Pardo?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Unanimous vote.

**4. A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE WATER AND WASTEWATER REVENUE SUFFICIENCY AND RATE DESIGN ANALYSIS; AUTHORIZING THE UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT TO UPDATE THE WATER SYSTEM AND WASTEWATER SYSTEM FEES, RATES AND CHARGES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Thank you. Item 4.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the City of Riviera Beach Utility Special District, Palm Beach County, Florida accepting the water and wastewater revenues sufficiency and rate design analysis authorizing the Utility Special District to update the water system and wastewater system fees, rates and charges and provide an Effective Date.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Do we have...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Somove.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** a motion? Is there a second?

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Second.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Let the record reflect that Mayor Masters is on the dais. Okay. Who's doing the presentation? [Pause]. Okay. Mr. Aurigemma.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** We have discussed this at previous workshops. [Moves mic]. Sorry. We have discussed these at the water, wastewater rate increase at previous workshops so I'll go quickly through these slides and, again, is our most valuable product. Infrastructure of our system, out of sight, out of mind and, and that is an actual picture of, of our infrastructure. And I'm gonna go through the next few very quickly but it's just to show...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Uh, Mr. Aurigemma, go back to the picture. So, where was that?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Uh, that, that pipe, that LS50, that was Lift Station 50. That was our major lift station that, at the last Board meeting, we approved the contract to...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Right.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ... renovate that. That was one of the pipe that had deteriorated and there's a pipe below, that's for Lift Station 10 that's on Park Avenue, down on, on the Island.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Right.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** So, that, that, you know, those are, you know, the, the high usage pipes but, again, that's part of the stuff that we're going to repair.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Sure. Okay. Alright. Thank you.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes, sir.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** So, where's Lift Station 50?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Lift Station 50 is at , on MLK & uh...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** On the corner there?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Yes.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** It's...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Right there on the corner.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Go ahead. Thank you.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** And so, this is just the inside of one of 'em, one of our exterior lift stations. That's the internal. That's part of our, that's a sanitary sewer lateral where there's roots that have grown around it over time and they get into the system and, and it clogs up our sewers so we, you know, we have to clean 'em out, repair 'em, etc. And, we went through a, a water, wastewater master plan which identified \$215,000,000 worth of improvements that needed to be done over twenty (20) years and, of course, you know, that is, is relatively expensive to do that. We do have a fifty-eighty (58) year old utility. Parts of the infrastructure are at or near the end of their useful life. And again, our master plan was a twenty year planning horizon.

Our urgent and high priority projects over the next five years and, and that's what we're concentrating on are, first is the miscellaneous water main infrastructure which is in conjunction with the Public Works bond projects. Then we have two new raw water wells that are required by the South Florida Water Management District as part of our consumptive use permit that we received in 2012. And then we have work to be done at the water treatment plant with the replacement of some of our water treatment facilities, the lime slakers and the lime slurry system. Then there's an, an additional sixteen inch water main that we need to put across the intracoastal to the Island to assure that they will have a water supply. And then, very important, is replacing our water plant generators which keep us running during the times of emergencies and weather and, severe weather and so on.

And just this, this amount on the water is \$14.6 million dollars. On the wastewater side, again, in conjunction with the Public Works bond projects, we have sewers and lift stations that have to be updated and we'll be putting \$3,000,000 towards that. Lift Station 47 rehabilitation and replacement, that's our main lift station. That's on the west side of the City that goes directly to the ECR. That's over on Haverhill Road, just south of Dyer.

And then, the, the big one is, uh, for wastewater, is a parallel force main crossing the intracoastal. This is to provide service..., an additional line across the intracoastal from the Island in case something ever happens to the other one. You know, you need that redundancy otherwise it could be a very painful situation for us.

And then finally, we have approximately fifty-two (52) lift stations, sanitary sewer lift stations in our system and, as part of our first priority is to renovate approximately forty of 'em over the five years. And, and that, that's roughly \$100,000 per lift station.

So that takes us into what we wanted to do as part of this study that was conducted by PRMG, our water and wastewater rate consultant. We were looking at the financial risks with, with respect to our, our system, maintaining financial strength and credit worthiness of the system, promote capital investment which is making sure our, we're able to provide service to our water and wastewater customers. And then, design a rate that is, includes cost recovery and is also equitable to all the user. And then also we wanted to avoid future shock. We didn't wanna come to you and say, 'We wanna double the rates.' We wanted to try to increase it slowly over, over the next few years. And then, of course, finally, we want the ability to issue additional bonds. The, that \$33,000,000 that I showed on the previous two slides is the majority of the \$40,000,000 that we'll be asking for in, in the future. So this, this rate includes the ability to issue those, those bonds.

And so, for a single family residential unit th;3t uses approximately 5,000 gallons, what, what you see is that the average for all utilities in the area is approximately \$25.25. And we're just a little bit above that today and, as part of the increase that we are recommending, it's just, it's just ticking up a little bit to \$27.84. About, about \$1.00 and that's part of that, that ten year increase that we had previously approved.

On the wastewater side is where we see the big significance. The average of all the utilities is about \$33.00. However, currently we're only \$18.53 and if we just take into consideration that ten year increase, we would bump that up to \$19.50, approximately. However, as part of, of the rate study that we did, we're recommending that we boost it up to \$23.00 so that we start becoming more competitive and, and being able provide for our, our capital projects into the future. And so then, the combined rate is, currently we're at about \$45.00 and we would like to bring it up to approximately \$51.00 with this rate increase. And that's for just t; next fiscal year. And, as you can see, we're still below the average for a combined water and sewer bill for an average singly family home.

Now, now we, we talk about the dollars and cents and essentially, in, in fiscal year 2016, what we're asking for is a approximately \$5.60, if you add the adopted plus the fiscal year 2016, that's what we would be asking for per month. And then in fiscal year '17, it's another \$3.37 per month, fiscal year '18 is \$3.98 and fiscal year 2019 is \$3.45. And down at the very bottom line, we actually calculated a cents per day for this water, wastewater increase. And again, what we're trying to do with this, with this adoption of rates is recover the cost of the ECR operations and debt which is our wastewater treatment plant in West Palm Beach, initiate the capital funding plan which is our overall.., we're looking for \$40,000,000 now but over the next ten years, we're closer to \$100,000,000 and, again, we cannot issue bonds without this rate increase. And, again, we also need to remain relatively competitive with, with our, our region. Costs keep going up and, uh, we have to maintain that.



[Stammer). So that's, that's it for my presentation. Do you have any questions?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Any questions by Council?

**MAYOR MASTERS:** I have a questions.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Mayor.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Madam Chair. Good evening.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Good evening.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** How are you, sir? Have you done any study on what is the medium income, of the average income of the residents of Riviera Beach?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** No. I have not.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** As compared to other cities as it relates to increase?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** The, the...

**MAYOR MASTERS:** I'm just asking.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** I, I...

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Any information?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ... have not. No, I have not.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Okay. Thank you.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Madam Cahir?

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Madam Chair? Go ahead.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Go ahead.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Go ahead, Mr. Davis.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** This is kinda piggybacking off what the Mayor's requesting. As you did this study to focus on what the market is, is doing in other cities, what was... in those cities that you considered that we should be doing based on what they were doing in their city, what was it that triggered and allowed their residents to pay those rates? Please help me...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Well...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** ... understand...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ... well essen'...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** ...that.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ... essentially, utility infrastructure improvements. That, that's what really triggers the rates and, and it costs more to treat water every year.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mhmm.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Uh, it's the chemicals involved, it's the employees, but it's also your capital funds. As, as infrastructure gets to the end, or near to the end of its useful life, it has to be replaced.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Okay. So, as infrastructure dilapidates, the water quality changes? Is that what you're stating?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Well, it, it's, it's, the pipes over time, they don't last forever.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Correct.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** They need to be replaced. The water treatment plant...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mhmm.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ... doesn't last forever. There's pieces of it that need to be replaced as, as we go along. So, again, if these aren't replaced, does it affect the water quality? Absolutely. So, basically, as you renew it...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mhmm.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Change all these parts in the infrastructure, it allows you to make sure that your quality of water remains where it needs to be.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Based on the way the budget and our revenues that are coming in now, are we able to af'.., to afford taking care of these maintenance fees on projects as our existing budget sits now?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** We, a'.., a'.., as I mentioned, those, those, those eight to ten items...



**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** I'll second for discussion.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Mr. Guyton.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** We, as a community, are gonna have to replace and upgrade our infrastructure. Period. Or the quality of service to our residents would be deteriorated. It's not like we have a choice, in my opinion. [Chuckle]. I mean, if, if your car break down, you gotta get it fixed. You know? This, this is something that I feel is.., we don't have an option. One thing that I don't want is the quality of our water and service to deteriorate based on politics. We were elected to make some difficult decisions. I'm ready to make 'em. For something like this, I don't think that we have a choice. I think that we have to do it. The infrastructure, we s'.., we have seen the pictures, are at the end of its useful life and if we don't do something, our residents will suffer. That's the bottom line.

Nobody wanna see rates go up. I don't. No one does. But in order to maintain a quality level of life, we need to have good infrastructure. Period. I don't see where we really have a choice so I won't entertain a referendum for this because I know if we do not address this, our residents will be complaining to us about the quality of the water and the sewage and the smells and all those other things that will happen. So, I mean, we need to be realistic and I understand we like to do little political thing and let's take it to the people and, but there's some decisions that we don't have a choice on. I think this is one of 'em. Because ultimately, the people that we represent will suffer.

So I won't be entertaining a, referendum for this.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yeah. I agree with Mr. Guyton. We were elected to make the hard choices and we're supposed to be representing the people and we have people coming to our meetings all the time talking about the streets. I know over in my District, in the past year, on Park Avenue, we had two different occasions where the streets caved in because of the pipes collapsing. And, if you dive around the City, you will see it. It is everywhere in the City. And we can no longer afford to ignore it. We just can't. And, I don't think anyone wants to see their rates increase but we have no choice. There is no choice. And, you know, for the longest time, the City of Riviera Beach turned a blind eye and we were, you know, we have the cheapest water in Palm Beach County, probably in all of South Florida. You know, just looking at the slide that you showed us really interesting how high the rates are in Broward County compared to Palm Beach County. And then the cities that have similar situations like us in Riviera Beach, you could see, you know, their numbers, much higher.

So, I don't think, you know, at this point, we need to move forward with this. And, like I said, I, you know, I have a water bill. I pay, uh, like everyone else does. But, no.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** These streets, all of those pipes, they need to be repaired. This entire City, all the infrastructure in the City has been ignored for fifty years and it's time to start raising the rates and fixing the problems that have been ignored.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Mayor.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** I understand. There's two side to every coin. People want this, they want that, they want the other. But, on any issue, I'm never afraid to take any issue to the people, particularly when it involves an increase or something they have to pay for. The issue is, is there another way to get this done without raising the water...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** [Inaudible].

**MAYOR MASTERS:** ... increasing the water bill? I support Ms. Miller's referendum and if the people say, 'Well, okay. Let's raise it a few. We want this, we want that,' then they'll say it. But if they don't say it, then maybe they'll say, you know, 'Findanother way.'

I support Councilwoman's Miller's intent of the, the referendum idea. I do not support a increase of the water bill. Period. Thank you.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Alright. Anyone else?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yeah. Mr. Davis.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mr. Aurigemma. Lift Station 50 and Lift Station 10, what was the numbers to get those done again?

**EXECUTIVEDIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** That was approximately \$3.8 million for the construction.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Three point...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** And...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** That's including design?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Excuse me?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** That's including design?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** That's just, that's'll, that's only the, the construction cost.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** How much design.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Design was approximately, um, total was approximately \$500,000, I believe.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** For, that's for both lift stations?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** That's for both lift stations. We co'..., we, we put it all together.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** So, approximately \$4.3 million?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** \$4.3.4, .4.4 million.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** \$4.4 million?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Yeah. I'd say that's a good approximation.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mr. Sherman? Please come to the mic, please. How much bail out money we need to give to the CRA this year?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** [Chuckle]. Um, I guess it depends on who's answering the question. We're, we're giving the CRA \$3,000,000...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mhmm.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ...for operating.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Okay.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** And another \$900 and change, \$100,000 and change for the Arena District.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** So that's about \$3.9 million?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Correct.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** For bail out money. The taxpayers gotta pay back anyway. Hm. And that's \$4.4? Plus, we're gonna have to commit another \$500,000 over the next twenty years. Correct? To the CRA.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** That was, that was...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Which is another...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ...the request, correct.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** ...ten, \$10,000,000 the taxpayers have to pay back. Correct?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** That was..., that's correct.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Seems to me that we got a decision to make between the CRA and the City's infrastructure.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Madam Chair. You done, Mr. Davis?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** No. I'm not done.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Oh.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** I'll wait and I'll Councilman Guyton..., seem like he has\_\_ wanna say.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Go ahead, Mr. Guyton.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Madam Chair? We sit at the CRA Board. We approve programs over there. It was our decision. We have an award winning CRA over there. We have responsibilities that we are obligated to. There's no City and CRA. That CRA sits in the boundaries of Riviera Beach. That's our CRA. We talk like it's a foreign entity that we're supporting. I would never consider compromising that agency when we have already made obligations and commitments over there. If we didn't want those programs, we should not have approved them. We approved them, they're doing well, they're helping that area that it's designed to help and I would not consider taking from that agency over there and compromising that CRA District which the CRA is created because it's either slum and blithe and we're trying to improve that area.

So, that is a non-starter with me. It's ridiculous, in my opinion. When we're planning a community, if we have a house, we, the owners are responsible for the upgrades in that house. When we have a City, we, the residents are responsible for the infrastructure and everything that is required to make it run smoothly. That's our responsibility. There are times when we have to replace infrastructure when it's at its useful life, as this is and it's just a decision that we have to make. I'm not about to start politicking, trying to seem like, 'Okay, we're..., we need to take it to the people.' If this infrastructure crumble, we're gonna be responsible.

It's not about the politics to me. I don't make my decision based on politics. I know a lot of people like to say, 'We the People this,' and 'I'm the People there,' and 'I'm the People here.' The people elected me to make hard decisions. I'm gonna make 'em. I'm not gonna put it back on them. They said, 'Bruce, you are elected to represent the constituency and make the hard decisions based on the data, documents and evidence. If we want to have a, City run through.., and I do support some referendums , let me say that. L I do think there are times when issues need to be taken to the people. But when we're faced with crumbling infrastructure, it's time for us to make some hard decisions now. It's time for us to do what we were elected to do and if some don't support it, they just don't support it. But I don't wanna sit up here and start politicking and make it seem like we're inconsiderate to the people if, if we do what we need to do in order to keep our infrastructure at a level that will provide quality service. All this is, to me, is politics. Plain and simple.

This a way that they don't have to make the decision, we'll give it to the people...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Mhmm.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** And then, it's off our shoulders.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Mhmm.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** I was elected to, to make these hard decision and I'm prepared to make 'em and, and we, we see that the infrastructure is crumbling and we have to do something. That's the bottom line. And I'm not gonna start trying to dismantle programs over at the CRA, which seem like the intent , not just tonight but that has been shown in other meetings, to try to justify, you know, why we should start, uh, dismantling all the programs over there. That's, that's the line to me. So, I'm prepared now to take a vote. I don't know...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** M'..., Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Mr. Guyton, are you done?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** I am done.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Mr. Davis.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Thank you. The reason I stated that because Councilwoman Miller had a valid point. But I was trying to save that motion by have a discussion to say that if we have the money, that motion might not be necessary because, as you know, and everyone else in this community understands, the CRA is benefitting from this infrastructure. Those businesses and all the redevelopment that's getting ready to happen, they're gonna need this infrastructure to happen. So, this same \$3.9 million that we already bailing out for the CRA, they're gonna get that back in return on the



infrastructure. So, once again, guess what? There are, there is a benefit. It's not our fault that the CRA..., I'm not sabotaging nuthin'.

If you trust and keep relying on someone to keep making recommendations that are not proper for this City and voting on it, you made that decision. But don't hold this whole Board accountable because you trust certain Staff more than, than you trust other Staff, the reality of the situation is, it was a shortfall, it was a bad situation, the taxpayers had to pay this money back, they're on the hook. Okay? They're gonna continue taking out loans to puttin' back on the taxpayers. But at the same time, we can take this \$3.9 million and take care of the infrastructure tonight. In tomorrow's budget.

Now, we don't have to take it to referendum. Because we actually have the money to move forward without raising the rates, back again, on the taxpayers. And this all started within the CRA. Yes, we all the same thing but operate in different levels versus Utility District versus CRA versus City. But the infrastructure, everybody in the City will benefit. The residents and the business district, the residents out west to Military, Congress, your neighborhood, my neighborhood, Miller's neighborhood the Mayor's neighborhood, Singer Island which is Riviera Beach, that neighborhood . Palm Beach Shores will even benefit.

So, I'm not gonna allow one person, \_\_ trying to protect one person to save..., to kill off a whole City. If we got \$3.9 million that we're getting ready to bail out and give to the CRA and give them another \$10,000,000 over the next twenty years, guess what, I would like to take that money and take care of the infrastructure now instead of raising the rates. It's a political decision and it's a strong political decision. And I'm very comfortable with taking that money and giving it back to the people because as though businesses have good water, great infrastructure, they're gonna sell more quality products and then that money's gonna create jobs and it's gonna be a benefit. And then later on as \_\_ and more redevelopment happen, then the CRA can find other ways to create new programs. As the development continues to rise in this community.

I'm not trying to sabotage something, I'm trying to fix what, the situation we're in. Councilwoman Miller decided to.., she'd like to discuss a referendum. I'm gonna say, 'Hey, we might need a referendum if we already got the money in place. We might not...' And based on what was stated here, we're talking about \$3.9 million, we don't even need to raise the rates to the taxpayer s. So guess what, it's their money, we're giving it back to them and the CRA and the businesses and all the people who travel to this City, cause we're a great tourism City. And the State of Florida's ranked number one in the world and France is number two. And they can start with \$3.9 million from this decision. When we get to our, our City budget tomorrow to finalize whether or not we wanna give it to the Utility District to \_\_\_ infrastructure do we wanna continue to give it to the CRA so they continue to leverage that money to take more loans and put us in more debt.

So, after this" I'm...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** I mean really, just think about it. I mean, it's not, it's not nothing that you, to be proud about but it's, it's just something to think about for everybody.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. So, we had a motion and a second on the table...

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ...to go to referendum on \_.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** I wanna make a comment, please.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** One more comment and we're going to the question.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** You know, it's not about politicking, it's, it's not about not wanting to make tough decisions, it is solely about making sure that we do not bankrupt our citizens. And we need to really think hard about other financial decisions that we make that probably don't need to be done sometimes and maybe we wouldn't be in a position of having to figure out if we're, we're gonna increase the rates for our citizens.

There are a number of things that have taken place and, you know, of course, our OIG, which can go back to that and \_ , you know, point us in a direction of some money that we could've gotten. So, it's not about making tough decisions but when you're involving citizen's money and they're the ones that's gonna be paying for it and we put them in this position by making some decisions that probably didn't make any sense over the years. So, no, it's not about not wanting to make tough decisions but it's about doing what's right. And politicking, for me, is not, not an issue. I'm not running right now.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** [Chuckle).

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Thank you.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Madam Clerk.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** I'm sorry, Ms. Pardo but I'd like to make a...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Let's go...

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** ... comment if...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ...and then...

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** ... it's okay with you.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yeah. Go ahead.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** It's always tough when these type of, you know, decisions come up. I don't blame anybody from the people who sat here before we did. You know, things, things were done. The Boards that sat previously to us, they did the best they could with what they had. It's nothing that you can look around, that goes on in everyday life that does not increase in costs. Nothing. If you're getting water delivered to your house, the cost went up. Gasoline goes up.

**UNK:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** You know? The costs of businesses is going up. So, to make a decision based on, clearly just saying, 'We don't want to raise the water rate,' well, that's, that will be an absolute thought process with the entire Board. Nobody wants to wa'.., to raise water rates. Nobody wants to do it. Nobody wants to pay higher car insurance either or, or homeowner's insurance. You know? But it's a part of doing business.

How I think of this is, and as I was listening to one of my colleagues, I guess if all of our problems were \$3.9 million, then I guess we could, we could do that, if all of our problems were just \$3.9 million but it's not. It's not. There's a place on 3yt street in this City, because the pipes are not the way they need to be, every so often, couple times a year, those residents over there do not have a chance to have the quality of life that we would like. Backups, damages to homes. All these things we're not discussing. You know, the risk manager is not here to say, 'Listen. We've had to pay out so many claims and do so many other things that I'm sure gets up into the hundreds of thousands if not the millions of dollars because of our infrastructure not being where it needs to be. Over on R Avenue right now, we have a serious situation. I'm not even sure if it's cleaned up all the way yet in terms of.., I mean, a serious situation that, you know, nobody's, nobody's sein' that, ya know?

I mean, of course, the media's hear tonight because of the next Item. You know? But, what I would think should happen is that we should be focusing right now on doing what's really in the best interest. And whatever people feel that may be politica,I I guess you can go out and say, 'Okay, don't raise, don't raise rates because it's the easy thing to do.' And you can say, 'Well, just.., let's not fix it. Let's take it to the people for a referendum.' I'm not sure by March we won't have six or seven more of those R Avenue situations, you know, that's going on.

And, you know, I'm more concerned that, as we set policy direction, you know, it confuses Staff to even come up with any type of plan a fear of we don't know what to offer. You know? There's more than just this. There's flooding, there's a whole lot of things that are going on and we just really need to do it. So, I mean, the motion on the floor is for a referendum. I don't think that that's an appropriate thing at this time and we can vote on that but I do want to entertain the original motion when we can, Madam Chair.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Right. Okay. So the motion on the floor right now is to go to referendum. Madam Clerk.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Miller?

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Guyton?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** No.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Thomas?

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** No.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Vice Chair Davis?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Chair Pardo?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** No.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** That motion fails with Board Members Pardo, Thomas and Guyton dissenting.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. And the, the original motion to accept the water and waste revenue.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** My second...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:**

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** ... still stands...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ...design.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** ... on that.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. And Mr. Guyton, your first?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Yeah.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Absolutely.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Madam Clerk.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Guyton?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Thomas?

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Miller?

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** No.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Vice Cahir Davis?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** No.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Chair Pardo?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** That motion is approved with Board Members Davis and Miller dissenting.

**5. A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING A \$1,000 MONTHLY STIPEND FOR THE UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE MAYOR AS AN EX-OFFICIO MEMBER; AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR TO MAKE PAYMENT FOR THE SAME; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Thank you. Item 5.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the City of Riviera Beach Utility Special District, Palm Beach County, Florida approving a \$1,000 monthly stipend for the Utility Special District Board of Directors and the Mayor as an

ex-officio member, authorizing the District Finance Director to make the payment for the same and provide an Effective Date.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Is there a motion?

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** So move.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Is there a second?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Second for discussion.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Properly moved and second. Ms. Jones.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** Yes. This Item has been before you two times in budget workshops and, at the last budget workshop, we talked about the implications. This recommendation comes from me in that there are so many water and wastewater issues that this Board needs to deal with that, in the past, we have been constrained by time. The volume of information that you all have to do and read in order to do this job, with the most and the best knowledge that you have to make the tough decisions, it is important that this particular Board consider meeting on its own separate day.

This is just an example for tonight and we're not even halfway through the Agenda and you're gonna be in here almost an hour and we still have two or three more items of which to get to. And, in order to totally vet the process to totally vet the issues, it was a recommendation that we move forward with this particular recommendation. I realize there's been a lot said. It was only intended in order to provide the residents adequate amount of opportunity to question items and for you to find out what is actually happening and going on in the Utility Special District because you have a responsibility of making sure that whatever goes on there, that you are fully aware of.

We never get the opportunity to talk about the ECR like we like, ought to. You don't get the regular reports because we always were experiencing time constraints. So this Resolution has been proposed and is before you, which was, like I said, earlier discussed in two other budget workshops. And, so now, I'll leave it to Council.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Alright. Do we have any public comment cards on this?

**UNK:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Thank you.

**UNK:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** That's fine. Yeah. And I appreciate that. [Inaudible] controversial. Okay. Marie Davis and then Bessie Brown.

**UNK:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Oh, I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Um, Marie, you wanted to speak on this?

**MS. M. DAVIS:** Yes, please.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yeah. And, alright. Bessie is for public comment.

**MS. M. DAVIS:** Um, I had a question of...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Please state your name for the record.

**MS. M. DAVIS:** I'm sorry. Marie Davis. 3001 Lake Drive, Riviera Beach.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Welcome.

**MS. M. DAVIS:** Um, how long, um, Ms. Jones, how long do you expect the meetings to take and how often do they..., will you be meeting on the Utility Board? Ms. Jones?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** No. You can ask your questions and...

**MS. M. DAVIS:** Okay.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ...then we'll...

**MS. M. DAVIS:** That was my...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ... address them afterwards.

**MS. M. DAVIS:** Well, I think if you're only gonna meet an hour, \$1000 a month, first of all, it's not gonna change the knowledge that you're going to need. \$1,000 just isn't gonna do it. Secondly, I think -it 's an outrage based on what you all just said, the problems are in Riviera Beach. I think you get salaries, you get various other stipends and I think it's already excessive for a part-time job and I think it's just a total disgrace.

Thank you.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Thank you. Marie, um, I'm sorry, Margaret Sheppard.

**MS. M. SHEPPADISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Margaret Sheppard.  
Riviera Beach.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Good evening.

**MS. M. SHEPPADISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** said.., good evening, uh, Madam Chair. To all of you. I said once before that you guys are getting bigger now. And this is no longer a part-time job. If you have to go back to the Charter and change the Charter, I think with now, with the thirty-two, is it \$32,000? That is a full-time job pay. It's, it's not part-time. I think you need to think about it. I have no problems with the \$1,000 because I see you guys out and about. You're doing a lot of things in the City. You're called upon a lot, you have to do a lot of talking, you gotta interact with the City. And I, I don't have any problems with it.

I just think you need to take time. If you're going to the people, go to the people with this. Change the status of the Charter and make this a full-time job. You're no longer part-time. And with the marina and CRA coming on, you guys are gonna be stressing. Stressing. You have people there that have full-time jobs with their other professions. This is a full-time job. This is a full-time job. You got to answer to the people. You have to this and.., just, please. Just take it under consideration. See if you can get a consensus of it and move forward. We've been doing this how long? Ever since I was a little girl. I'm a old lady now. And you're still doing the same thing over and over. It's time for a change. And, it's time for a change.

I hope that you all will move on. I have no problem with the raise because I'm out there. I see you working. I know you're working. And you're not doing not doing it on the salary that you have.

Thank you.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Thank you. Okay. That's the end of public comment. [Chuckles]. Anything from the Council?

[Chuckles]

**UNK:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** This is not public comment. This is Item 5.

**UNK:** [Inaudible].

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** She's saying Item 5.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Alright. Well, excuse me. I apologize. It's the end of public comment for that Item. Okay. So anything from the Council? Anything? Alright...



**MAYOR MASTERS:** Yes. I do.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** I'll say [inaudible]...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Go ahead, Mayor.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** My ques'.., line of questioning is to the Manager. Madam Manager, on the statement from the City Manager, Ruth Jones today that we receive. At the top you say, 'As City Manager, I recommend a \$1,000 per month stipend.' Is that correct? [Pause]. I'm reading this paper.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** That's what the document says. Yes, sir.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** That's correct?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** Mhmm.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Thank you. At the bottom, before it's.., the, the sentence says, 'For these reasons, we recommend. Who, who's thewe? It went I to we.

[Pause]

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** Well, I guess.., well, I would say it, it's probably a typographical error.

**[check video and put in what happens - then delete this]**

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Can I, can... Can I do this please?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** For that being awe...

**MAYOR MASTERS:** That's ridiculous to you but not to me. I have a right to a question. I don't think I ought to be interrupted by any Councilperson. Excuse me, Madam Manager.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** I believe that's an error in the statement. Because, the recommendation did come from me so it should say I in the first part of August.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** So there wasn't a Staff? I hears somebody say that was.., we was referring to your Staff but you're saying it's not, it was you.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** Yes, it was...

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Is that...

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** ...me.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** ... correct? Okay.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** It was me.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Okay. Now, Madam Chair, in the first paragraph [clears throat], it says that we have been.., well, I.., this is the first time that my name has been added onto the, onto this sheet as *ex officio* member. It's probably one of the first times I've attended but because of this issue and it affects me, I definitely want to have input. So I'm gonna ask you a few questions. Okay, Madam Manager?

Um, in the first paragraph you say, '... who have been \_ the Board of Directors who have been without type of compensation for their work on the governess of the Utility since the District was formed in 2004.' That's about eleven years. Okay. My question is [pause] [stammer], are you, are you suggesting that because there hasn't been any compensation for 2004, that that should have some bearing on what the compensation should be today, for 2015?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** It has no bearing on the dollar amount but on the need.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Okay. I want an answer to the young lady who was here that asked that these meetings.., this is based upon one meeting a month, or two?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** It was \$1,000 a month, it had not been determined how many meetings.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Okay. Can you tell me, since it's "I" and not "we", meaning your Staff, how did you come up with \$1,000? What was the, the rule or what, what did you look at to come up with a figure that many people are saying is outrageous for at least one meeting or maybe even two meetings. But I need to know and I think the public should know that, um, what was your basis of coming up with that figure?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** Just like with the Charter and the setting of the \$19,000, there's no formula, Mr. Mayor, that was used in order to do this. I was considering and recommended this in my August 3<sup>rd</sup> letter to the Mayor and the Council and it was your decision as to whether you wanted this figure or anything less and this was the minimum figure that was in this correspondence and that's how it was selected. It could've been changed. It can go down, it is just a recommendation from the Manager but there's no formula in the hourly rates that was used in order to determine that, sir.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Okay. [Stammer] I not, I just got a couple more. Is there any other City that has a Utility, Special Utility District in Palm Beach County other than Riviera Beach cause I don't really know?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** I'm sure there are other water.., West Palm Beach has a water facility so there, there are others.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** They don't [inaudible]...

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Okay.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** But they don't...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:**

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** I don't know if they have a separate...

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Well, he's saying no and...

**CITY MANAGER JONES:**...District.

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:**

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Their separate Board.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** They have...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Separate Board.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** They have.., they don't have a separate District...

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** Correct.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** It's a part of what they do as the city government.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Okay. Madam...

**CITY MANAGER JONES:**

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Madam Manager, you mentioned something about the Charter. I need to ask you, what was that?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** Uh...

**MAYOR MASTERS:** In your...

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** As it relates to the, what the rate is for Council Members in the Charter.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Okay, Madam...

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** I didn't...

**MAYOR MASTERS:** ... Attorney?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** I didn't have anything to go on as a, a basis.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Okay. Madam Attorney?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:**

**MAYOR MASTERS:** The Charter, the salaries for Council and Mayor are set in the Charter. Is that correct?

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** Yes. That's correct.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Okay. For that to be unset or to be changed or raised, we're talking about salaries in the Charter, what would it take?

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** Well, let me give you a little history on that since you asked the question.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Yes. Please do.

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** The, the Charter.., before 2008, portions of the Charter could be changed by ordinance and, in the past, the City Council changed its salary by ordinance meaning that you had an ordinance and it was presented to the Council. One point, the salary was \$8,000 and it increased to \$10,000 and then the \$10,000 number increased to \$19,000 by ordinance. When you changed your Charter in 2008 and took the entire Charter to referendum and placed it officially in the new 2008 Charter, you effectively made it so that anything you change in your Charter now has to go to the people by referendum.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Okay.

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** So, the \$19,000 figure that's currently in the Charter was set by the City Council prior to 2008.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** So, in order for that to be changed, it would have to take a vote of the people?

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** That is the correct.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** So the Council does not have the authority to change it in itself?

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** That is correct.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Okay. Well, let me just say this. Um [pause], I've thought about this. Long and hard.., can I [stammer]. Well, I'll let the other Council people.., uh, Madam...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** No, \_ .

**MAYOR MASTERS:** ... Chair? Can I just finish? I don't wanna...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Mayor...

**MAYOR MASTERS:** ... take up too much time.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Go right ahead. Why don't you finish your comments and we'll go down the dais?

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Thank you.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Thank you.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** I've thought about this, long and hard. I, I, I prayed over this issue. Like anybody else, I could appreciate, um, as I said in one of the workshop, a \$2.00 raise or \$100. I can't speak for anyone else but myself and I made a statement and I said, I think it was taken a little bit out of context that I said that I, I think that perhaps, everyone would probably say when look, when they look at their jobs, everyone would probably want a raise. Everyone would probably feel they're overworked, everyone would probably feel they're underpaid, be it police, be it fire, be it Pars & Recs, be it the library, be it whoever and whatever. So, I can appreciate the Manager's intent. I really, really do. Certainly, I mean, I would benefit. All of us would benefit.

But what bothers me with this is that no other group in the City can set their own salary, can set their own increase be it police, be it fire, be it whoever. So the question that really bothers me is it fair, that because I'm in this position that I should feel that way but not feel that way and use the influence of this office or go along with it because of person gain. That bothers me. I want to be able to have a clear conscience on that. And if others do not have the same right, then it's.., is, I'm troubled by that, number one.

Number two, almost every initiative that I've been involved in that effects the City as a whole, whether it was Pull up the Pants, whether it was the police, whether we should go with police or whether we should go with sheriff, several years ago I was involved in leading a referens'.., a referendum against giving an increase. That's where I was then. So, I'm really troubled by this amount. So therefore, I just don't think that it's fair based upon what the Manager said of how it was came about. So I, I can't support it.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Great.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** I...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** .. .Thank you, Mayor.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** That's just me.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** That's perfect. Thank you. Ms. Miller.

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** I, I personally just think that the timing of it is probably not the best as I kind eluded to a few meetings back when it first came up and I did ask how, what formula was used to come to this amount. Was it just a random amount or, you know, every meeting we get \$300 or whatever, what was the basis of the amount. I'm sure none of us came here to get rich. We came here to do a job and that was to represent the people. I, myself, personally I have a job. I have a couple jobs. So, I'm not here to try to get rich.

I did like what Ms. Sheppard mentioned and I actually thought about it earlier today was, if we are moving in a direction where this position is requiring us to be full-time workers.., which, most of us would probably say it is because we have the Utility District documents that we have read, we have the City Council documents that we have to read and we have the CRA documents that we have to read. And, a lot of times, we're talking several hundred pages that, of documents that we need to read.

One of the things I was wondering if it was possible to not load our regular City meeting Agenda up so much to a point where it makes our nights so long. And I say that to tie it in with the Utility District if we.., on the times when we are having a Utility District meeting, is it possible for us to not have such a loaded regular meeting on that same night? And that's just a though. One of the other things is to, I mentioned, I know when I first got here, about doing an Agenda review. Maybe that could, you know, cut down some of the time that we're spending in here. Also making sure that Staff has, gives us everything that we need, initially and in the backup so we don't spend an hour and a half on one Item, discussing it sometimes. That eats up a lot of our time.

But, going back to what Ms. Sheppard said about this becoming a full-time position. I mean, if that is where we're moved to and the hours, the amount of hours it's taking to effectively govern is making us become a full-time group, then maybe we do need to consider that. You know? I mean, that may not work for everybody that's up here but I, I know I have a job but I don't know if I'd be able to do this full-time, on paper but maybe, you know, I mean, we need to start getting people who can do it full-time, if that's the type of work load that we're incurring.

You know, I, I., just listening to things we've talked about thus far, about the wastewater, stormwater, talk about giving the money to the CRA, talking about, if you bring up how we weren't able to give the policeman, you know, as much money as they were requesting, um, our Parks & Rec...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** ... roads..., we have a number of things that need money thrown its way and it just does not look good that we are appearing selfish and wanting to pay ourselves when we were not willing to go the extra mile for our other employees and for our citizens to put money in the areas that would improve their life such as the, the infrastructure that we have been discussing.

So, you know, I, I can't support this because I just don't think it is the right thing to do, um, giving the situation that we're in with all of the expenses, expenditure s that we have sitting before us. And I know during our budge time, we had a very tough time trying to put money in different areas and having to cut back or needing to cut back but knowing it was a, a serious need that needed to be filled. And I just, I just don't know that this is the proper time to do that. So I, I will not be supporting this.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Great. Mr. Guyton.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Than k you , Madam Chair. Let me first say, there have been some reference to the CRA on several occasions and what we're doing over there which it, we are the CRA. What is not being said is that, close to \$2,000,000 or more is coming back to the City for debt service that the City owes. Uh, Madam Chair, there's a, what, \$500, \$600,000 debt service on the marina? How much is on the marina?

[Pause]

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Eight? No, nine.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Randy, Randy you...

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** the total indebtedness?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** No, no, no, um, no.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:**

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** There's a marina one, there's a ground lease one..., there's several debt services that we'll give to the CRA and they give it right back to... Randy, Randy, come, come...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** So, it's...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** ... back, come back.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** .. \$10 ,000,000.

[Laughter]

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Okay. Come, come, come back. Cause, cause it, you know, this illusion that we're giving some to the CRA is ridiculous.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** That...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** We're...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** As part of the Marina District project, we provide about \$10,000,000 to that project, of which they're paying back just over \$8,000,000.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Okay. Wait, wait. The ground lease.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** The ground lease is about a million one.

[Inaudible background comments]

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** And, tha'.., that was created in anticipation of those FPL dollars falling over there. So, and, we're paying a debt service right now.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Wait, wait a second.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Can we stay on track on here?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** We're gonna stay on track.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** This is on this. You can bring...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Okay. Madam...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ... this up after...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** ...Madam Chair...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ...comments.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** ...please, please, please.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Right. But...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Be'.., because...



**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ... I wanna stay...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** ...now wait.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ... on track.[Inaduable].

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Madam Chair, can I finish?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Go ahead. But I. ..

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** I'm finna to get to this.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ... wanna stay on track. Go ahead.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** The CRA has been used as the reason that we're saying that we're giving the CRA., and I'm telling the people that it's coming back to the City, in debt service. I'll leave as that. Okay? So, all of this about what we're giving to the CRA, which is us, is, is not accurate. We're paying debt service. We give it to them, they give it back to the City. So, the City is getting it.

Let, let me just say this about elected officials. [Pause]. When, when I decided to run, um, we were..., I was having a discussion with some friends. We were trying to determine who would be a good candidate. We were looking for people to run. It wasn't me. So, we were sitting down and, um, we said, well, we would hope that they would have some experience in municipal government. We would hope that they would have some level of education, hopefully in the discipline related to municipal government and, you know, and if they had some political experience, that would help too. And fourth, they, they need to have some backbone, some courage to make the difficult decisions.

So, as I was looking down and writing and I looked up, all eyes were on me. I said, "Oh, no. No, no, no. No, no, no, no." They said, 'Bruce, you work a municipal government, you have a degree in something related to municipal government, you've been an elected official and you have, from hat they thought, courage to make the difficult decisions. So, I., uh, I said, 'Well, we need to think about this.' Long story short, we talked to several people and the group decided that they wanted me to run. I'm saying this to say that we don't have a large pool of people that even want to run for office. We don't have people lining up at the Clerk's Office saying, 'I volunteer to take this abuse on this dais.' I see people going a different way when it's time to file for office. Some people say, 'I don't care what you pay, I am not doing that.'

As a result, we have a vacuum, a void of people with experience and education and courage to make the difficult decisions. Even stepping up. As a result, the policymaking is compromised because most people, that don't have experience or education related to something in municipal government. They have a learning curve, everyone does but there's a much steeper ..., and that becomes a problem and I'm

going to place where people are complaining about something that they don't wanna do. That becomes a problem. I'm just gonna keep it real. And, when, when we get here, some of us don't put in the work that's required to be informed about this issues. That is the reality of elected office. We saying I'm gonna be the people's candidate. Whatever the people want me to do, that is what is gonna happen. We have a responsibility to get on this dais and read our information and be informed and make informed, hopefully, educated decision.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Come on.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** I have my nemesis because I am direct, I don't bite my tongue and I don't any kissing up. And some people don't like that because elected officials, historically, they wanna be elected and they do a lot of kissing up and whatever you say and that's just not my, my, my mode of operation. We'.., we're talking about a City Council, we're talking about people that serve on the City Council, the CRA, the Utility District and if you're like me, I also serve on the Treasure Coast Region Planning Council and I serve on the Metropolitan Planning Organization, representing the City. All of those organizations have voluminous documents. The mindset of many in the community, you do it because you serve the community. You love your community. That's why you do it. That's why I do it. I got a full-time job so, this is not gonna make or break me.

But if we're going to ever attract quality candidates, with the right experience and the right education, in my opinion from trying to recruit people, someone'll do it for any amount of money. There needs to be a reasonable stipend. People sacrifice personally and professionally. Take me out of the equation. I have no desire to be a long-term elected official. So, when I leave, somebody gonna wanna run and will guarantee you that most of 'em don't have any experience or no education related to municipal government and they're gonna have a long, steep learning curve.

My point is, if we're ever gonna attract quality candidates, the stipend is gonna have to be reasonable people. That is the reality of making policy decisions. Some of us get up here with no experience and no education in this and then we become the experts. We know more than the Staff who have degrees and years of experience in their trade and through osmosis we become experts now. And we don't make good decisions. We make political decisions. If the community rise up, we're gonna go whichever way that political wind is blowing. For me, I don't think that that is a good decision-making process. I make my decisions, and I've said this before, based on data, documents and evidence. It takes the politics out of the equation.

So now, as it relates to this, it is my opinion that if we're going to attract quality candidates, we need a reasonable stipend. Take me out of the equation. Anybody. I went to people who had degrees in public administration and planning and they said, 'Bruce, you have to be out of your mind.' And that's the problem, people. On any job

that you go to, the first thing they ask you, what is your experience and what is your education. Any job. Except politics. The question is, do you support this? I'm gonna support you then. Sometime we have on issue that would trigger our support and then when we get these voluminous documents and complex issues, we are lost. We don't wanna admit it. And it's nothing to be ashamed of. If you weren't trained in anything like this, you're not gonna know it. So, we need to be realistic about how we attract quality candidates to run for office. We're not gettin' 'em now. We're struggling to recruit people to run to serve in office. And, unfortunately, sometimes people that get here just don't have the background to do the work.

**UNK:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** And, and that's the reality. 'Bruce, you're too blunt. You're too to the point.' I know. I know. That's just me. So, it's my opinion that it would benefit trying to recruit quality candidates with the right education and the right experience.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Thank you, Mr. Guyton. Commissioner Thomas.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Thank you, Madam Chair. Um, I've.., I normally watch Channel 5. Most people know how I feel about Channel 12. I met some nice people that work at Channel 12 and I met some not so nice people that work at Channel 12. You know, I always watch Channel 5 and 25 because I believe that they at least give a balanced story. It's not a, 'I gottcha you moment,' or, 'Let me embarrass the City,' which is normally what we get from 12 but 25 and 5, even if I don't like what they're sayin', most times they're, they're at least balanced.

Over the past few days, I've been watching, I believe her name's Roxanne Stein. Like, like her. She's nice reporter and very professional. But I've heard her say several times that the City is going to, the Council's going to double their salary and.., which is not true. They never said that this is a stipend for a total different Board. They never gave that information out. But they said it yesterday, they said it several times this morning. I think it was even a live broadcast early this morning about it. And I'm sitting and I'm waiting for the Chamber doors to be filled and I'm waiting for my email to blow up with people who are so just disgusted with this. Full transparency, I've gotten a couple emails from people who didn't support it. I've even gotten some people who didn't support it. It is not political. It is an entire different Board.

Now, what I have to do is I have to give kudos to the Manager for saying, 'Listen. We've gone over the, the, the billing for this. We've gone over lease for water rates. We have so many issues with it but we've only been allotting thirty minutes and these problems keep coming back.' And she said, 'Hey, listen. Not only do we have a failing infrastructure, but we have policy decisions that need more time.' And, you know, I've,

I've been up here the same time as Mayor Masters and just one year longer than Ms. Pardo but, over this time, there's a lot of stuff that goes on. The Mayor so eloquently brought out that you can't raise your salary. You cannot raise your salary. The, the citizens have to do that. And I'm fine with that. And maybe that should go to the, you know, to the people to decide. But it's not something that we should be making political and, and fighting back and forth with it.

I'm gonna say one more thing about the, the media. There's hundreds of things that this City does well and the media...

**UNK:** Don't...

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** ... they don't..., they're all in the back back there by the way. I know you can't see 'em. There's three cameras back there. I don't know who all they're from but they never come out, they never talk about all the wonderful things that we've done or we do or how great this City does things. No, we don't do everything perfect. No City does. But we have a lot more to be proud of than the unbalanced news stories that they're going to, to put on. I, I., all of you know, I'm, I work for the citizens of Riviera Beach. So I don't care what the news media puts out about me. I care what the residents think of the job that I'm doing here. That's what I care about. Residents, if you allow the media to give unbalanced information, it will always be this way.

Now, the stipend, which can go away at any time, a stipend can go away at any time, it can start at any time, it can do any of that. They failed to say it is a stipend for a different Board. You can make this however you want to make it. If the citizens say..., come and say, 'Listen. This is not what we want you to have,' that's something totally different. But I am not going to allow the media to drive it. I think one of those cameramen live in the City. I think. But, the rest of 'em, they don't. They're here to try to get a news flash, to say something, to cover, to cover news. That, t hat's it. When this Item is don . they'll get on at 6:00..., oh, they missed that. They'll get back on at 10:00 or 11:00 ...

**UNK:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** ...they'll say whatever their story is for that time, they may try to run for another two days and then they're on to something else and we're still here left to deal with this until the next hot item comes up.

All I'm saying to residents is, this was a recommendation, it was a recommendation that we've discussed several times and I wanna hear from you. If this is an issue, than that's something different. But I don't want you to take it from the media. Now, if they go back and say, 'Hey, this is balanced. Let me actually look at some, some documents and let's see exactly what's going on. We do need more time. Everybody understood that. When we were going over that police, it's still people upset about the policy. We had to deal with that, that policy three or four different times.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Maybe even more.

[Chuckles]

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** But we, we can't start running and hiding just because the media. Now, I done, I done, you know, beat up on the media enough. You know they're only gonna play just small parts of my comments now, so take that in mind. They only gonna play small parts of it. Catch words, catch phrases, something to make you say, 'Oh, look at what they're tyin' to do.' No one's trying to get self-enriched here. If we take \$1,000 stipend, if we take a, a \$500, \$200 or whatever it is, if the citizens don't want us to have it, then tell us and we don't have to take it. It's a stipend. And guess what, you can always refuse to take it or give it away or do whatever you wanna do, you know, about it but don't make it seem like it such a bad thing to say, 'Hey look, you know, Councilman Thomas, uh, Councilman Pardo, Mayor Masters, you all have been here going on, Ms. Pardo eight years, Mayor Masters and Councilman Thomas, we've been here nine years. You have not had any type of cost of living, any of type of anything. Nothing. We want you to continue to work hard but you, you, you two have had nothing.

It's, it's nothing in the, in the statutes or anything that says, you know, as you are here... and, get a cost of living. If you look around at some of the other places, they have that. Some don't. Some don't. We got referred to West Palm Beach. I don't know what it is but I think it's, I think their salaries, their salary is above \$30,000. I believe. School District, I think the same thing. You know. It's, it's all type of salaries and all I'm saying to the residents who entrust us to sit here is, for once, trust us. Not the media. Trust us. And, if you get tired of trusting us, then you replace us. These seats do not belong to Mayor Masters, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Guyton, Councilperson Thomas, Councilman Davis or Councilwoman Pardo, they belong to the citizens of Riviera Beach which mean they belong to all of you. And if we, for once, I would, I would love to see for once, for us to say, 'Listen. Let's not try to find everything negative in any decision that's being made. Let's find something positive.' We, if you look down your streets, you see that we have huge issues, huge concerns. You want a Board to stay intact and keep dedicating the time.

Just over the past coupla weeks now, you can, if you count the hours..., and none of us got into this for the salary. None of us got into it for the salary but after you've been here, you do see that there maybe things that you can increase. And all of us just don't do City business. We try to make sure that we do community events from dealing with our, our youth to our seniors, doing other stuff other than just these things. Everybody up here has some type of even or something that they do to keep engaged in the community. It's a lot of that that's going on. So, all I'm saying to it is, this is what is a budget. If the, if the citizens say, 'Hey, we don't want you to do this,' we can always say, 'Then we won't do it.' 'We won't do it.' That's all, that's all I'm asking. I'm asking. I'm asking you all to have some faith in us. Have some faith in us and if you get to that

point where you decide that you don't want us to have, then we won't. But we are the ones who work for you. Call us, talk to us. Hear the whole story and not just the snippets...

That's all.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Thank you. Mr. Davis.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Thank you. Thank you. First of all I wanna start off by saying I'm, I'm very proud to serve the residents of Riviera Beach. As stated before, these seats belong to the people. My service and my time and energy belong to you and I represent that ownership very well and I'm proud to do so. At no point would I ever complain, even though we get tired but I would never complain to do my job and my responsibility.

This Item came up for discussion when we got elected, um, I came to the understanding that we're gonna sit on a Board for the City, which we get.., there's, there's a salary for that and for the CRA, where there's no salary for that. Then we have our Utility District meeting, very short, once a month. That's fine and dandy. There's times when there's discussions about retirement which was something I didn't support but when you start talking about increases of salaries, you're saying you're doing the same job for more money. But now the responsibility is being required to do a lot more. With that responsibility I will just ask you, and just at home, to ask yourself, your representative in your seat who sits on the City, CRA.., which I aggressively attend the Planning & Zoning meetings and sit through 'em all, the Housing Authority meetings, I side through those, CDC, the Utility District, the Gulf Management, Governmental Affairs, even attend the Port meetings. We have church events, we have to be there. Sometimes you do three services a day. And you can't say no. And at no point would I, I ever say no unless I'm sick or my health is to the point where it, it can't push on anymore.

And I ask myself the question, is this something that's permanent? I think it's something that we may consider for a trial period to see how much we do. If it requires us to continue to deal with, uh, a simple stipend, then sure. But the time it start become restricted, then maybe we need to modify the salary at that time. You know, this stipend was brought to us in the very beginning which woulda cover almost \$41,000. Then, this Board, we had a discussion, this Board stated.., well, I know I stated that I would like to deal with just the bare minimum. And that's where we got to the very simple \$1,000 month stipend.

I enjoy this job. This is something I'm gonna do. I'm only supporting it at a trial basis. Month-to-month. If this re'.., if it shows that we don't do more time, then we need to bring this back for modification amendment to, to the stipend. If it shows that it requires even more time than what the City Manager has suggested, I will not be willing to increase but I will understand that with this more time that's required, I will stay consistent to where we are. But, I will just stay consistent to where we are. But, I will like to consider doing this as, as a trial error, trial period, month-to-month to see how

much time is required. If there's more time required, then I will..., be very clear now, I'm not gonna take any more stipends but I would just stick right here. But if the time started getting restricted, then we need to bring it back for an amendment to modify the stipend because it's based on the time that it..., that we have committed and said that we will come and serve. And I will stick to that. I will just focus on a trial period to see how we go from there.

That'll be all.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Alright. Thank you. And I will make my comments. I'll start by saying, when I was elected almost eight years ago, we used to have Agenda review on Monday afternoons. And, I was always at Agenda review and Councilwoman Judy Davis was always at Agenda review and Councilman Thomas was always at Agenda review. But the other two people who were on the Council rarely showed up and the three of us would get all of our questions asked at Agenda review and then come Wednesday night, when the Council meeting started, we would have to sit through those meetings for hours because some of the people chose not to go to Agenda review and just ask all of their questions at a Council meeting.

Back then, I was..., no, I think everyone knows I retired about a year ago but, back then, I was working about sixty-five hours a week in my job. Alright? [Stammer] Yeah. More than a full-time job. Right? But, I was elected, I told the people I will represent you. So, I made it to Agenda review. But after a year, then the following year I became the Chairman of the City Council in 2009 and I brought the issue up and I said, 'I wanna hear from Council. Should we continue moving forward with Agenda review?' And the vote was there not to do it. Now, since we didn't have Agenda review, I made it my business and to this day I make it my business to meet with Staff on a regular basis. I meet with Mr. Aurigemma every week. I meet with Ms. Jones every week. I meet with Ms. Ryan. I go every week.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Right. And I go through the Agenda. And if need be, I pull all of Staff in and it takes quite a while. I usually dedicated all day Tuesday. Staff'll tell you. All day Tuesday and my last meeting on Tuesday is with the CRA. But I make it my business to do it. I'm not..., no longer working. I have been very fortunate in my life and I was able to retire last year. And I put in even more hours here, in the City, than I put in with my..., what I used to call my real job. Okay? Only because I'm here to represent the City and make the City of Riviera Beach the best City in Palm Beach County because I know we can be that City and we're getting there. Slowly but surely we're getting there. And we're getting there because of the dedication that some of us have to this City. You know, so, you know, there's been comments about Agenda review. I will never support Agenda review. I will never support it again.

What I will support and it is much needed, is a dedicated day for the Utility District because the half hour that we have, and it rarely ever last a half hour, we've been going almost an hour...

**UNK:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** It is needed. Ms. Jones brought up the ECR. Very rarely do we have a public discussion about the ECR. I have a discussion with Mr. Aurigemma privately but rarely do we have that discussion. And the, I believe, the public has no idea what's going on with the Utility District. And this, you know, having a separate meeting is much needed. Much needed. So, you know, I support that too.

Ms. Jones, when she made this recommendation to us., and I will say, I commend Ms. Jones for making the recommendation. And when she made it, she made it clear, s'.., we, we stopped the furloughs a coupla years ago, we just negotiated with the police unions. Those guys are getting their raises. Alright? And that was a long fought battle and we're going back to the table with them for next year. They got something, our firemen, the general employees. We negotiated new contracts with Ms. Ryan, with the CRA. So, you know, I commend [stammer], you know, people can beat up on Ms. Jones for what she recommended but I commend her for recommending that. I commend her for noticing the additional work that we're all putting in. And some of us., I, and I can tell you, some of us up here don't need the money and some of us had dedicated salaries to buying computers. Okay? I was one of them., buying computers for the children's library. Or buying supplies for the kids going back to school, buying dictionaries for almost every child in this City. Alright? So some of us just don't take the money and just put it in our pocket and go back and do whatever you can really do with \$19,000. It's not like it's a lot.

But, you know, if this., the last thing I'll, I'll say is when Ms. Jones made this commendation, she said that it needs to be reevaluated. And, at the time, I thought asolutely, it needs to be reevaluated because if this passes and then we have just one meeting a month and it lasts a half hour, absolutely not. It needs to be, like we said, a dedicated day and we need to go through everything. Everything. You know, there's probably stuff up here., you know, things happening in the Utility District that some of the Council people aren't aware of but everyone needs to be aware of it. So, you know, again, if it passes, it will be reevaluated in six months.

And the last thing I will say is, if it goes to a vote tonight and the people that are against it and we heard from several people already, I challenge all of you to make sure that they're not taking the stipend, that they're against. So, so, with that, you know, that's all I'll have to say. And...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Ma'...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ...Ms. Jones...



**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Madam Chair. Oh.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** I, I'm still speak, sir. And Ms. Jones, again, I commend you for having the backbone to bring something like this to us. Alright. Mr. Davis and then we're going to the vote.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Well, one thing I wanna definitely.., Councilperson Miller has stated, even when she first got in office, and I t truly support that, is that even as we go through this trial period to see how much time we're gonna spend on this from month-to-month, we definitely need to bring back, also include the Agenda review. That is something that should definitely not be avoided. Agenda review is something that should definitely come back along with this Item [technical bleep]. support. Hello? Okay. Agenda review is something that definitely needs to come back because she has stated at day one, since she's been elected, and I respect that and I truly understand how important Agenda review can help us even be more prepared as we get to our regular meetings cause I do feel like all of us, even though.., leave that alone, that we do do our job but a little more time together, uh, through Agenda review can definitely be a, a benefit to this whole entire City.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Alright. Madam Clerk.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Guyton?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Thomas?

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Board Member Miller?

**BOARD MEMBER MILLER:** No.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Vice Chair Davis?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** Chair Pardo?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes.

**DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY:** That motion is approved with Board Member Miller dissenting.

**END OF REGULAR AGENDA**

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - Non Agenda Item Speakers (Three Minute Limitation)**

Public Comment should be restricted to issues, matters, or topics pertinent to the City of Riviera Beach. Please be reminded that the City Council has adopted Rules of Decorum Governing Public Conduct During Official Meetings, which has been posted at the entrance of the Council Chambers. In an effort to preserve order, if any of the rules are not adhered to, the District Board Chairperson may have any disruptive speaker or attendee removed from the podium from the meeting and/or the building, if necessary. Please govern yourselves accordingly.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Thank you. That is the end of the regular Agenda. Comments by the public. Public comment should be restricted to issues, matters and topics pertinent to the City of Riviera Beach. Please be reminded that the City Council has adopted Rules of Decorum governing public comment during official meetings which has been posted at the entrance to the Council Chambers. In an effort to preserve order, if any of the rules are not adhered to, the Board Chairperson may have any disruptive speaker or attendee removed from the podium, from the meeting and/or the building, if necessary. Please govern yourselves accordingly.

We have one public comment card. Bessie Brown.

**MS. 8. BROWN:** Good evening. Bessie Brown.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Good evening. I missed Item 4.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Good evening.

**MS. 8. BROWN:** And I really wanted to say that, um, when, these water rate increases..., I'd like to know, are we still having a 2% increase and within the ten years that was for the water rates and how long does that, um, and how much more..., how many more years do we have on that? And I'd like for someone, I'd to, for, to be able to talk to someone to get these answers. I would like an answer and not just, 'Oh, [inaudible] get that, get that for them?' I'd like to get it, like, by Friday, if possible. And uh, because the, cause, in 2015 we automatically have a 2% increase and then a'..., if we add on these other increases in 2016, we'll, that'll be about a 12.05% increase and then 2017 that's 7.08% and 2018 7.5..., 2% in 2019 which is roughly, which is roughly end up being about a 34 %% increase. None of these percentages they tell you but, you know, if, if you don't write it all out, then you won't understand just how much it is. Because when I see, I, I, I have, I have, I have a problem with..., why is the stormwater being double? What happened to the stormwater money? We've been paying stormwater moneyfor, for years.

And I think, and, and the public officials giving themselves a raise or, or salary increase is, um, hum. I think it's ludicrous. If you, if, if the..., if the..., if we have ta do something

with the Charter cha'.., amend the Charter, I think we should do it that way and then maybe you won't have to worry about the, you know, the, um, media and all that other stuff because let's do the right thing and then we won't have to worry about people say and think about us.

And [stammer] Mr. Guyton, you said that you didn't, you didn't plan to be a long-term elected official with the actual, um, pension, um, when, but you made sure that the elected officials got a pension and it went all the way back to the time that you were an elected official in the beginning. So, um, you have to think about the things you say and the things you do.

And the only other thing that I'd like to say that, did anyone actually check the last twelve or twenty-four months of the Utility District meetings to see how many.., to see how many, um, how many of 'em increase pass the thirty minutes because I know for a fact, plenty of 'em have been for thirty minutes or less.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Thank you for your comments. Mr. Sherman, will you...

[Inaudible discussion]

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ...get with Ms. Brown... Okay. Thank you.

**DISCUSSION BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT OR THE CITY MANAGER**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Discussion by the Executive Director. Item 6. Advance metering infrastructure presentation.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Good evening again. Randy Sherman, Finance Director.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Good evening, sir.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** This presentation actually goes back to when we were talking about the issues we were having back with landlords and everything. We were talking about some of the issues that the City could look at to maybe take care of some of our overall meter issues. Those of you who have been around a lot longer than I have, you know, know that the, uh, the technology that we're using is, is probably a little bit outdated. And I'm, I am not an engineer so if there are any real technical questions, I'll let Mr. Aurigemma talk, talk about those.

But what I kinda relate this to is if, you know, if you think about our iPhones versus, you know, the phones that you were using fifteen years ago and how the technology has changed. That's, that's really where the metering has gone.

Really what advanced metering is it's going to, to what we call smart meters. What the smart meters do, is they will, they will actually talk to the City as frequently as we want them to talk. Right now we actually go out and we have to read the meters, we drive through the neighborhoods, we have radio frequency and the only time we get any information is once a month. And what these meters will be able to do is talk to us all the time. They'll be able to give us notice, they'll be able to tell us when there's problems. They'll be able to give us data that we currently do not have.

Some of the benefits that we will actually have from these meters. Again, it will reduce the amount of meter reads that we actually have to do. We won't have to have someone driving around the streets of the City all the time. We'll get increased accuracy. Because the meters are digital and have fewer moving parts, the readings that we'll get will be much more accurate and there's a, a graph in here a little bit later on that'll show you the, the difference. Improved asset management. One thing that I really like about these meters is they're all GPS'd. You know where these meters are and you can track 'em. Theft detection. If the meters are pulled out of the ground and become dry on the inside and there's no water running from it, we will get notice. So, as soon as a meter is, is pulled or someone tries to steal it, um, you know, we would actually get notice right there on the spot and, you know, and be able to deal with it.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes, sir.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** I can't let you go passed there.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Okay.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** So, you said that we're gonna get notice when someone tries to steal it. And, how are we gonna get notice?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** As soon as the meter is dry on the inside, cause it always has water in it, whether you're running your faucet or not, there's water in it.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** As so..., soon as it's dry...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Soon as it's dry...

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** ... it triggers...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... it sends us a message.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** I got it. So, it could take forever to get dry and the meters are somewhere else.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** No. Again, as, as soon as there isn't water flowing through it., son as it's disconnected and there's no longer water going through it, we would get that notice.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Okay.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Okay? The other advantage to these meters is...

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** And then what are we gonna do once we get that notice?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Well now we can dispatch. You know, we can actually send somebody there immediately to find out, you know, to find out what's going on.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Okay.

**UNK :** [Inaudible].

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Plus it, plus it's, it's, has GPS in it and, again, we can track it. Now, they.., the other advantage is, is they're not brass. There are some...

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Oh, so people wanna...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** So people won't wanna...

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** ... steal 'em as much.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ...it for the money.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Now that's a beautiful thing.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Now, they may...

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** .That'sthe best...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ...wanna steal it...

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** ... reason I've heard.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... so we can't read it [chuckle]...

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** [Chuckle].

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** But the, the meters actually store the data. You know, so if it is disconnected, we don't lose the reads. So again, you know, again, think about your, your phones, all the information that's in there, these meters now are that high tech and, and...

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Is it gonna be in the cloud?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** There's the option. You can either run it on a server here or you can run it on the cloud.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Okay.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** You can run it with a radio frequency or cellphone-type frequency. You know, different manufacturers offer different, offer different products.

There is a lot of benefit to the customer as well. Customer service would improve immensely. Again, right now we only know of events going on once a month. But now what we would have, is if there are leaks, we get noticed. Again, if, uh, if something isn't working properly, we get notice. We can do hourly reads, we can daily reads. Right now, if, you know, we do go out occasionally, when we, when we can't find the solution to, to why somebody's read is what it is, we will send an individual out there every day to do a read so we can try to tack, track what's going on. Again, with this, not only do we get hourly reads but the customers can get hourly reads. They can sign right into their meter accounts and they would actually be able to see everything that we're seeing.

The meters will capture 100% of the flow. As you know, with the current meters, over time, because they're mechanical, the meter readings actually drop off over time. These meters are, have a twenty year battery life. We will not be out there changing meters. As I said, they're tamperproof. And again, they're, they're an LCD, everything in it is electronic. One of the problems we have with the current meters is because, again, you have dials and you have moving parts, you know, I'm sure Mr. Aurigemma's talked to you about the fact that they get clogged, you get lime in 'em and they don't necessarily read accurate. All of that goes away because, again, there are no moving parts in these meters.

Here's the graph that I talked about and this may be a little bit difficult to see but this blue line that's going across the top...

**LINK:** [Inaudible].

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Let me see if I can find my cursor. There it is. The blue line that's going across is the new meters. And you notice, it comes in at 100% and twenty years out it's still at 100%. These other lines that are out here are different types of meters and, again, you can see over time, you know, this

one drops off. This type of meter never even gets to 100%. So again, what the issue is here, is every time you're not getting 100% reading, it's lost revenues to the City.

**UNK:** [Inaudible]

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** And again, what I did, and 'pop through some of these slides fairly quick here but again, because they're electronic meters, they can report on data that we currently don't have. I'll show you a few slides of some of the data, again, that only we would see but the customers would see. This is a daily read. So you can see the daily consumption. That's the blue bars. The squiggly line that you happen to see on this one is the temperature. So again, if you're looking at, you know, dry season, wet season, you can deal with the temperature. Again, it's just to give the consumer more information.

As I mentioned, there are a number of lines.., I'm sorry, a number of alarms that are on there. This is just a listing of a few of them. So again, it would allow us to get the information in a real time manner and be able to dispatch our staff to resolving the issues as they're occurring rather than trying to, to backload and, and try to figure out what's gone wrong, you know, long after the fact.

Again, this is another screenshot of, from one of the systems. And as you can see, these are the types of information that we would get these warnings. It actually sits on a desktop right in the office and you can set this up so, again, you know, you would be able to monitor 13,000 meters on a daily basis. Again, some more screenshots. This is a, an hourly read. So again, you can s'.., somebody comes in, 'I don't know what's goin'....' You could go back and say, 'Well, at 11:00 o'clock you spiked and used 300, you know, gallons of water. And be able to pinpoint exactly what was, what was happening. Again, more screenshots, more information for the consumer.

This is dealing with the GPS. Again, you can pull up the maps of the City. The blue dot on the right would tell us exactly where the meter is. We, occasionally, have a hard time finding meters now because people buy 'em and we can't necessarily locate where they are and we have to trace 'em all the way back to the street but this would actually identify where the meters are actually have been installed. Again, a few, uh, shots here.

What I did here, and again, we're talking about the fact that the real impetus behind this is really to get the accurate readings and better customer service. This is why you would look at something like this. It is not cheap. Again, you know, those of you, you know, probably remember the last time you tried changing out meters. If you were going to do the entire City, you're probably looking at probably between five, five and a half million dollars, to change out the entire City. One of the things that would impact that price is some of the manufacturers actually produce meters that you can turn on and turn off remotely. So, if we wanted those types of meters, it would cost a little bit more. But what this analysis does, is we looked at increasing the accuracy of our reads by just 2.5%. So what we have down.., the left-hand column here, this is how much our revenues would actually be increasing. We obviously would have some capital costs,

you know, going in. We would have operational savings because, again, I don't have to send people out, you know, all the time to do meter readings. So, so we're looking here at a total benefit of these meters. And again, it's gonna increase over time as water rates change, as consumption changes as the City grows and more water is being used.

But what we did is, we took the benefits, we compared it to the cost of purchasing the meters and we took it out over ten years. We would have some administrative costs, obviously, for software and those types of issues. And, at the end of the day, there is a benefit to the City, financially. Okay? So, you not only get to get the customer service benefits but you obviously also get the financial benefits as well. One of the things that, you know, we certainly don't wanna be overcharging people, we don't wanna charge people for inefficiencies but I think what we do wanna try to do is make sure that we are charging for the service that's being provided and that's one of things that, that would.., these meters would actually provide for us.

So again, these, these numbers are, you know, obviously, you know, bungable. They can, they can move around. You know, there's nothing exact to these but it's just an example of how these meters can, in essence, pay for themselves over time.

And that's my presentation.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Hold on one second. Mr. Aurigemma, can you show everyone the meter? Or, have you had the meeting with all of the Council people? Have you showed them the meter? I think it would be good if.., Walter, if you can maybe zoom in on the meter and let Mr. Aurigemma just go through it so the people can really see what it is.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** This is a, this a typical residential water meter and it has the brass bottom and the electronic top. This comes off and this, this electronic unit has a twenty-year battery with a twenty-year warranty. And, the manufacturer will replace it if it goes dead. However, one of the problems that we've been having is with vandalism, the glass is cracked and when the glass is cracked...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Can't read it.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** We, you can't read it plus the warranty is void at that point. However, we still have the base and, again, there's a certain scrap value to this brass piece. Now, inside, Mr. Sherman talked about some, some moving parts and, on the inside of the meter, is the moving parts which is, in essence, this little plastic gizmo with a magnet on top which allows, as the water goes through, there's.., it moves and allows for the water go through and it registers on the electronics. And so, what happens is, when a meter gets plugged, this is what fails. This moving part that's inside the meter. So what we have to do, is we pull this out and put in a new part and



that's how we refurbish the meters. Then we just put it back on and then we're able to install another top on.., you know, we go, we go and we buy the new electronic registers, we put it back on and essentially we have a, a meter ready to go back into the system. So, that's just a, a quick demonstration on what we have in our particular system right now.

Obviously, meters range from the very small to 5/8 all the way up to 8"...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Mhmm.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ... in diameter.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Thank you. When I met with Mr. Aurigemma yesterday, he showed me the meter so I just wanted to make sure everyone else was aware of it.

Alright. Mr. Davis, you had a question?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mr. Aurigemma, that meter you have there is the, is the old meter, correct?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** This is a meter that was pulled out of the system because of a broken register. And what we did was we refurbished it. And, basically, we, we, we put the new guts on the inside and this read to go. I, I just used this.., I just pulled it off the rack as a, as an example.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** So, the, the new ones you're talking about purchasing will be identical to that or?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** No. Well...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** [Inaudible].

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** The, the one.., the new ones that Mr. Sherman is talking about is a, a, is a solid state...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Oh. So, it, it's not separate?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** It's all one unit. So, it has no moving parts. It doesn't have the, the guts that you have. And the water just flows right through it and, and again, it has all the additional electronics but, uh, they're relatively indestructible.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** So, so you mentioned earlier about the scrapping. Do we scrap those parts here, now?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** No. Unless it was damaged...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ... and we couldn't use it, then we would scrap it. But right now, we have approximately 750 meters, the bases, that are sitting in, in the Utility District that, as we need 'em, we're refurbishing them and then what we do is we buy the electronic register separately and then we just add them on and, uh, when we put in, we just slide it on. And this locked on. I...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mhmm.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ...I don't have a lock with me right now.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** So, so what happens when we buy the new one, what's gonna happen to those? When we buy the new ones, purchase the new ones that are being recommended?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Well, eventually, it'll be a turnover but, uh, this would be sold for scrap. The...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** So, for scrap?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ...the base. The electronics, obviously, you're not going to use that anymore.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** How, how long have we had the existing meters?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** These meters, I believe, have been in around ten years or so.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** [Inaudible].

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** Uh...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Oh, f'..., approximately fifteen years.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** What was the lifespan on purchase on those? The warranty?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Well, the, the warranty is for twenty years for the electronics. These things, again, unless they get..., they can last forever, however, the, the bodies last forever...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mhmm.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** But the, uh, the internal plastic parts, you know, it, it'll.., the life of its, you know, depending on how much water's going through there.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** So we have about five years left on the warranty?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Uh, it just depends on when we buy these.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** [Inaudible]...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** This is a brand new one, this has got a twenty year warranty, right?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Okay.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** . So, there's some in the system . If they're still in there, they would only have five years left but then there's others that may have, you know, any, any amount up to that point.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** So, when we purchase the new ones, is that for the entire City or a certain.., are we gonna do certain sec'.., sections of the City as those, um...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** No. All the, the residential meters have all been replaced.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Correct.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** So, so, basically, as we...

**UNK:** [Inaudible background]

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** ...need to replace them due to vandalism or plugged meter or whatever, we take that on a case by case basis.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** And then put the new ones in at that time?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** And, and then we'll refurbish the bases and we'll add a new electronic top, if we need to.

[Inaudible background comments]

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** No. What I mean is...

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Oh. Oh, the new ones...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** ...the, the new ones that's coming in...

**CITY MANAGER JONES:**[Inaudible).

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** At what point will we be, um, activating that process. Will we activate 'em all simultaneously or as it... What kind of type of strategy do you have?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Well, first let me tell ya, this.., again, this \$5,000,000 price, it's not in your CIP.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Okay.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** So, we haven't.., we, uh, we have a ways to go. A number of utilities around us are going through the process right now to make the conversion, or they're studying it. My personal preference is let them make the mistakes. [Chuckle]. Let them go through and, and figure out.., that'll give us the ability to\_ and, and check to see which ones really work best for us.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mhmm.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** So, maybe, you know, next year \_ where we can talk about it. I think what we'd wanna do, we have about 13,000 accounts.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Okay.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** We have five cycles. You know, the six guys that I have, certainly can't replace 'em so we'd have to have somebody come in and what you're gonna do is maybe a cycle at a time.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mhmm.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** So you can pull 'em all out. Cause every time you pull out a meter, you've gotta read that current meter so you can get that read and then the read going forward. So, there's a process that you'd have to go through.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mhmm.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** You know, and a larger cycle is about 4,000, you know, between four and 5,000 accounts. So, there's a lot of work to go through. We'd have to go through an RFP, we'd have to fig'.., you know, get our specific specs. But it's just a process of going through. The, the issue came up six or so months ago, you know, make a, a quick presentation on just to kinda tell you where the future is and, you know, which direction we're, we're probably heading towards.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** So, so, right now, have you vetted out all the potential, uh..., how can I put it, not defects because..., like you said, the one prior to this, it has the glass that people can break...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** So, now we have the metal. Is there anything , there may be...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** [Inaudible].

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** ... a negative return? On...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** On the...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** ... the new ones.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... new ones?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Yes.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** No. I'm [stammer], those., there're, there're as solid plastic as you're gonna get. You know, you could take a crowbar to 'em, ya know, and I don't think you'd damage 'em.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mhmm.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Um, ya know, you might be able to break the lid off it, ya know, cause, again, it does have a lid but, as far as damaging it, yeah, they're pretty indestructible.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** So, what type alarm would happen if someone was try and do it? How would it, how does that alarm process work? If someone goes and try to mess with that meter.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah. And, and again, it's, it's..., because it's all digital inside, it has the alarm if it becomes disconnected.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Mhmm.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Okay? Cause again, then the water's coming out of it. Okay? But again, if you're, if you're trying to whack it. ..

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Right. Right.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... and remove it and [inaudible], it's gonna set you off an alarm that somebody is, is...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Would the alarm...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... beating up on this thing.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** ... would this come to our system ? [Inaudible] load enough for the residents to hear?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** No, no. The alarm's an electronic signal that'll come back to our desktop.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** [Inaudible].

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Now again, the, the homeowner or, you know, the, the customer could see if they're online.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Okay.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** But, you know, it would come, it would come to us.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** That'll be all.

**BOARDCHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Thank you. We have one public comment card. Dasha Newbold

**MS. D. NEWBOLD:** Good afternoon. My name is Dasha Newbold. And I came to speak in reference to this proposal or this presentation.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** [Inaudible] background].

**MS. D. NEWBOLD:** First or all, i'm insulted if you had six months and this is the presentation you came up with. We're gonna raise the water bills but you're asking, as the Director of Finance, to spend \$5,000,000. I think that's ludicrous. I've had the ability to work for a utility, they did change their meters and I think we need a better presentation or at least have a test run before you even consider something like this. With it being electronic, if I'm not mistaken and I do have a degree in computers...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** [Inaudible].

**MS. D. NEWBOLD:** ...you could take the chip out and change the chip, in the meters they're referring to. So, and I'm a little appalled that they would get up here.., if you wasn't scrapin' metal, now you know on national TV or local TV, you can go get a meter and scrap the metal. Um, I didn't really appreciate that. This presentation should have

included the pros and cons with these meters. The meters should have been tested in six months to see if everything that they're trying to sell you is accurate, which it's not. What happens when the power goes out? What happens when the satellite, if a satellite fall out? What are we gonna do for billing? How are we gonna bill the customer? All those things need to be taken in consideration because, if I'm not mistaken, and I think I'm right, it requires satellite along with the computer system in order for you to get the readings and be able to tell that this customer needs to be billed.

If we have a catastrophic event, the City of Rivera Beach will not get any readings, they will not, not know what to charge the customer and I don't care how much they tell ya about data but they need to do their research and they'll find out we will have a blank slate on billing the customers. Now, for us to be in the red in some areas and for us to be raising the water bills and in need of another bond or whatever, we're gonna spend \$5,000,000 on meters? And we already have meters that supposedly has a warranty, that apparently you didn't do your work for because, if you get a warranty and part of the, the meter is the, the cover, but you ain't you have them to put in a plastic cover so you can't break it so you can read it.

I mean, before you go spending money, let's figure out how to save money. Let's figure out how to help the citizens, particularly with the billing, reducing the billing, instead of raising the bill and coming before ya'll talking about spending \$5,000,000. That sounds crazy to me. I mean, that's putting it bluntly but that's really crazy to me. And you haven't done your full research. You have not tested this to see if it's gonna work. You're just going by something somebody told you that they're trying to sell it to you. And as a finance director, I would figure you would be trying to help the City save money, lower the bills instead of coming before ya'll to spend \$5,000,000. Please don't consider that.

[Bee]

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Thank you. Alright. I just wanna make this clear. This is only a presentation. We're not approving anything. Correct?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** To wait and see what other...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Right.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** ... other municipalities are doing.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Right.

**UNK:** Yeah.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Alright. Is there anything else or we'll move on?

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Yes, Madam Chair. I have a question for Mr. Sherman.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes, Mayor.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Thank you. With the, with the new technology, Mr. Sherman, are we able.., do we have a better way of discovering water leaks, not on our side but on the side of the resident?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yes.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Because I know I, I hear a lot...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** [Inaudible].

**MAYOR MASTERS:** ...about that so, tell us...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah. And again, because it's all digital...

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Mhmm.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** It'll detect everything. It'll detect as much as that water is going through. So again, you have the shower running, you know, the water's gonna go through at one pace but when you have that faucet that's dripping, the system will be able to detect. And that was one of the alarms that would actually get.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** That's good.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** And again, we get that with our current system but I only know it once a month. This, I would be able to see it...

**MAYOR MASTERS:** On a hour...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ...as it's happening.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Now, my follow up question on that is that once.., just, just kinda reiter'.., reiterate the, the policy or how we handle it. Once a resident figures the leak, figure out where the leaks are and calls the plumber and it, and it fixed, however they've been paying, you know...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** ...a, a water bill that...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Right.



**MAYOR MASTERS:** ... you know, reflective of that. Do we try to work out something to lower [stammer], compensate for the leak, that problem? Where, where are we now with that?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah. If, if they have...

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Please explain...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... an issue...

**MAYOR MASTERS:** ...that to the residents.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** I'm sorry, Mayor.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Thank you.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** If they have an issue on their side of the meter and you have a leak, once they show us that have resolved the issue, bring us the plumber's bill, show us a.., then we go back and we make the, the one-time adjustment on there.

**MAYOR MASTERS:** Thank you

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Alright. Anyone else?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Madam Cahir?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes, sir.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** I would just like to, so, will we have.., will this come back before us in another presentation mode?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah. Again, this is just a very preliminary...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** [Inaudible].

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** You know, we, we've talked to a few of the manufacturers, we've talked to a few of the other utilities that are moving 'em forward. But this is really.. .

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** [Inaudible].

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... first stages.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** I, I would like to sit down and discuss with you because there was some valid points that, that sound really well that Ms. Newbold stated before and I would like to sit down with you and discuss that before it comes back again.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Okay.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Alright. Thank you.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah.

## **7. SOLITRON DEVICES, INC. AUTHORIZED STOCK REPURCHASE PROGRAM**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Thank you. Item 7.

**UNK:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yep.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Oh. [Chuckle]. I was expecting you to read something.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Alright. Well, I'll read it.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Okay. [Chuckle].

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Solitron Devices, Inc....

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** No, that's okay.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** You know, we have the public that's, you know, they have no idea what we're talking...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Right.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ...about. Solitron Devices Authorize Stock Repurchase Program. Go ahead, Mr. Sherman.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah. So, Solitron is a manufacturing company that contaminated some ground water back pre-1990. You could look at the EPA reports. They're not quite sure when it exactly happened but there was some ground water contamination that required the City to put in about \$800,000 worth of equipment for the cleanup. Back in the 1990s Solitron went through a bankruptcy filing. The City put in a claim for over \$500,000 for the equipment. As part of that, the City took on a \$200,000 loan from Solitron which they have fully paid off. But the City also received over 65,000 shares of Solitron stock. The City still owns those 65,027 shares. Close of business today, it was about \$4.40 a share so about \$286,000 of value.

You know, the question that we have today is, you know...

**UNK:** [Inaudible].

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... we're, we're holding those assets.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** [Inaudible].

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Solitron is offering a stock buy-back and the question that I had that I'd like to discuss tonight is whether you want me to approach Soltron and see if we can turn those shares into cash. Any proceeds that we do get from the sale would go back to the Utility District. The funds would be deposited in the renewal and replacement account. That's where the, you know, dollars came to, to put in the equipment. So that's really the question. I, I've talked to people about trying to sell the shares in the past. The issue is Solitron stock is not traded very frequently and if we dump 65,000 shares on the market it, it would cause it to, uh, to crash. Not the whole market but [chuckle] just the stock price of Solitron.

So, they do have a buyback. I don't know what price they're offering but I'm just seeking, you know, your concurrence on whether I should follow that route or not.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Madam Chair...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** I have... Oh, yeah. Hold on. Go ahead.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** A while ago I came to talk to you because the gentleman who was saying that the...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Right.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** ...company was about to be..., a changeover was about to happen. Do we know what actually happened with that?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** I belie'.., well, there was, we'll call it a hostile takeover and I believe it failed.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** So, the original people...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** So, so...

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** ... are still...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... the original people are still in place.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Okay. Okay.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yeah. It wasn't a hostile takeover. What it was, um, an investment firm, right.., first they came in, they bought a little over 5%, then they upped it to 6.52 and they were trying to get two Board seats. And, when I looked at, let's see, they were supposed to have their annual meeting sometime in August and I don't know what happened. Do you know? Did Eriksen get their two seats?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** No. I, I do not believe they, they got enough...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... votes to take over...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** And who...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... two seats.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ... votes our proxy? And who decides...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** No one. And that's, that was, that was the other part...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. So that is..., yeah.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Alright. Well, that is very concerning to me. Okay? Because, you know, if someone would of asked me for my opinion, I would of said, 'Go with Eriksen'. You know, the company really hasn't performed if you look at, you know, what they've done for the past five years. The, the, you know, the stock really hasn't moved in relation to the stock market.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Right.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Are they still paying a dividend?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yes.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Twenty-five cents?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yes.

[Chuckles]

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. And, yeah, you know, the company has some serious problems and I understand where Eriksen was coming from and then there's a couple of other institutions that have a little over 5%. And what I think happened prior to the annual meeting, Eriksen said, 'Okay. We're gonna take these five large investors and we're gonna form an advisory committee.' Which was basically, you know, to shut them up. So, my opinion, and, you know, I used to do mergers and acquisitions, I would, yeah, I would just bail on this. I would try...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ...to reach out to them and see how much they're gonna offer.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** And just sell it. And I agree with you, it doesn't, you know, it doesn't really trade much. So, you know, see what you can get. But, I don't think that this something that we should continue holding. You know, if you're really looking for an investment, you could take that money and invest it somewhere...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Right.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ...else and make...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Exactly.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ...you know, a better profit. So. Alright. Anyone else?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Go ahead, sir.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Why not sell versus a buyback?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Well, again, trying to put 65,000 shares of Solitron on the, you know, for sale, it's gonna depress...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** [Inaudible].

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ...the prices. You know, so if they're willing to pay us what the current...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Right.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... you know, listed price is or, or close to it., and again, three years ago, when I first got here, it., and I got the first proxy and said, 'Where's the stock,' [chuckle], it was trading at about \$3.00 and I talked to the attorney at that point and he wanted us to take a 25% haircut on it. I said, 'Well, we wouldn't be interested in, in doing anything like that.' But now that they're offering to do the buyback that, you know, if we can get as close to the market value as, as possible than...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** How, how...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... I think it...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** ...long have they been...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... would be beneficial.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** How long have they been offering the buyback?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** They, uh, the press release was dated...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** [Inaudible].

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... July 28<sup>1</sup>. h

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Right.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** This year?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Did they send it to the City? Email?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** No. It was just a press release.

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** Public notice.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah. It was...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** How did we find out?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ...a public notice.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** In the paper? How'd we find out?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Actually, when they were talking about the proxy and, and parties were contacting the City about the proxy, they, they provided it to us.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** So, they reached out to the public to do us a favor?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** No.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** No.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** It's for everyone.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** They, they...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** It's a process.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** They have \$1,000,000 that they're looking...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Right.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... to buyback...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** I was being...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... shares.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** ... facetious.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** I'm, I'm, I'm just trying ta...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** [Chuckle] . Okay.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** At this point, I think it's something that I would like to consider. I mean, get more and do more research on this here, person'.., because I think it, I don't see to where it's something that, that has to happen right now. But I would like to, maybe, bring this back to the next meeting. Because there's nothing that's being stated now why we need to make, take this action now. You know?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Um...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** I, I think maybe what I will do is..., let me contact 'em.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Okay.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Cause if, if all they have is \$1,000,000, once the \$1,000,000 has been used on buybacks, then, then they wouldn't have any dollars...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Well, I don't mind...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... left to buyback our shares.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** ... hearing what they have to say. Now, that part...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** ...I don't.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Let me...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Ya know?

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Okay.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Yeah. [Stammer]...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** To at least hear what they have to say.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Alright. \Nell, just for the record, I, I totally disagree with that. If they only have \$1,000,000, you wanna get there early.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Because now some of these other investment firms that have been holding the money on trying to get, you know, holding stock with the hopes of trying to get a seat on the Board and we all know that another issue with this company is, for whatever reason, you know, contrary to what they should be doing, you know, by SEC standards, they're not having annual meetings like they should. You know? They're not having annual meetings every year. So, my opinion is, we need to get to the table as soon as possible before some of these investment firms that are holding over 5%, start negotiating with them...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah, right.



**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** And then you're gonna be stuck with the..., you're gonna be stuck with the stock. And it's not like it's really liquid stock.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Right. Correct.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Ma'...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** You know, so it's just, at this point, it's just, it's totally asinine to continue holding and especially because we haven't been active. You know, we're, we're not voting our proxy. So, you know, we're just a complete after thought.

Mr. Guyton, did you have something? Did I hear you?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Yes. Yes. Thank you.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yeah. Go ahead.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** And, ditto with the Chair. Timing is everything with stocks. And, and we need to be able to move when they have a little liquidation [chuckle].

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Absolutely.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** And, and if we don't, we would be stuck with them, at no value. So I, I would agree that we need to move as quickly as possible, see what we can get for 'em because if, if there's no movement in the stock market with them, like, there's no possibility of them really increasing significantly..., and that's what I hear. Is that, is that...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Mhmm.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yes.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Does that seem to be the case? Yeah. So, if that's the case, I mean, we, we, we need to try to get as much as we can.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Yeah.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** As quick as we can.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Okay. Thank you.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Okay.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** That's the direction...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. So...  
[Inaudible comments]

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yeah. So, what's the consensus?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** I'm, I'm just stating this. You know, I don't have a problem having a discussion to see what's the offer but I need to hear the offer come back to this Board before a decision is made because, by the time he leave here tonight, who knows what's gonna happen tomorrow.

**UNK:** [Inaudible].

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Huh?

**UNK:** [Inaudible].

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** No, no. She said go ahead and sell. She stated that, the...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** No. I...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** ... Chair stated that.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** I would...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** No, wait.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ...assume that there'd be some...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** The Chair said...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... corporate...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** ... sell it.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ...resolution that...

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** That's what she said.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** ... would be required to sell.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Exactly.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Once it comes back.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Exactly.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Because, you know...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** You have to go and, right, start negotiating...

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Right.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** ...with them.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Right. Okay.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay? So, alright. Well, okay? So you got your consensus.

**DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN:** Thank you.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Alright. Mr. Aurigemma, do you have anything else?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AURIGEMMA:** Yes. Just one item. And this is regarding the ECR, the East Central Regional Water Reclamation Facility which is our wastewater treatment plant. Uh, a notice to proceed for the \$92.6 million biosolids project was issued in August of 2015. So, we expect to break ground on that project sometime in September. So, just wanted to inform the Board, as we have our meetings I will update you on a monthly basis.

#### **STATEMENTS BY THE DISTRICT BOARD**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Thank you. Alright, Ms. Jones, do you have anything?

**CITY MANAGER JONES:** No, Madam Chair.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Thank you. Ms. Ryan?

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** Nope. Nothing at all.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Anything from Council?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Yes, ma'am.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Go ahead.

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** I just wanna reiterate that, at some point, we do need to strongly consider Agenda review. And I just hope this Board really take in consideration, which was recommended by Councilwoman Miller. It's something that we need to seriously consider and, and just it a try and see how that goes.

That'd be all.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Alright. Thank you. Anyone else?

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Madam Chair?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Yes, sir.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** I, I have a que'.., and about the Agenda review...

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** [Inaudible].

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** I meet with Staff and have my own Agenda review.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Right. Me too.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** We can do that individually. \_ We don't need to have

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** [Inaudible] try.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Yeah. But, but yeah. I, I have Agenda review but, I have a question about this cause we, we can meet with Staff anytime and go over the Agenda.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Right.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** And I do that.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Me too.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Who, um. when did our electious Mayor become an *ex officio* Board Member of this Board?

[Inaudible background comments]

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** Well, I, I don't know if it's been on the Agenda before but, in reviewing the Charter for the Utility Distric,t the Mayor has always been listed as an *ex officio* Member.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** What does...

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** Which...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** ...that mean?

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** Basically, he can attend the meetings but he doesn't have a vote.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** But can or shall.

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** He doesn't have to. He hasn't. I mean...

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** It's been years.

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** He doesn't have to.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** I'm just curious cause I, like he pointed out, this is the first time he saw it and it's the first time I've seen it...

[Inaudible background comments]

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** ... on, on the Agenda so I'm trying to figure out when..., what was the change that precipitated this now being put on this Agenda.

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** Well, I didn't do the Agenda but [chuckle].

[Inaudible background comments]

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** I, I will tell you that in drafting the Resolution for the stipend, that's when, you know, I reviewed the Charter very carefully and noted that the Mayor was an *ex officio* Member of the Utility District.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Okay. Is, is now, now that the stipend was voted on, does..., I guess the Mayor said that he didn't want his or he was against it. How do we handle that?

**CHAIR PRO TEM DAVIS:** Agenda review.

[Chuckles]

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RYAN:** Well, the..., if you're asking me, I mean, the Mayor's an *ex officio* Member. If...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** But, if someone doesn't want it, 'I'm against it.' How do we handle that?

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** I mean, a person's not forced to take a stipend if they don't want it, correct?

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Just like they're not forced to take health insurance.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** Yeah. If he doesn't...

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** Oh, okay.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** They're not forced to have an aide. They're not forced to travel.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS:** If he doesn't want it, then he can give it back.

**BOARD MEMBER GUYTON:** That's all I have, Madam Chair.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON PARDO:** Okay. Anyone else? Okay. No more business, we are adjourned. Thank you, everyone.

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned at 7:37 p.m.


Public Comment Speakers and Others

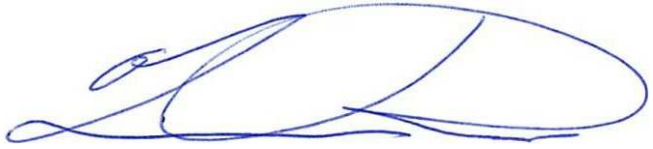
MARIE DAVIS .....	MS. M. DAVIS
MARGARET SHEPPARD .....	MS. M. SHEPPARD
BESSIE BROWN.....	MS. B. BROWN
DOSHA NEWBOLD.....	MS. D. NEWBOLD

APPROVED:

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CHAIRPERSON


ATTEST:

  
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TERENCE D. DAVIS  
CHAIR PRO TEM

ABSENT  
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RUCE A. GUYTON  
BOARD MEMBER

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KaSHAMBA L. MILLER-ANDERSON  
BOARD MEMBER

  
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CEDRICK A. THOMAS  
BOARD MEMBER

MOTIONED BY: C. THOMAS

SECONDED BY: T. DAVIS

B. GUYTON ABSENT

K. MILLER-ANDERSON AYE

T. THOMAS AYE

D. PARDO AYE

T. DAVIS AYE

DATE APPROVED: 10/19/2015