
From: Heaton, Anna (GOV)
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 11:25 AM
To: 'lmsmi@umich.edu'
Cc: 'vduffy@umich.edu'; Murray, David (GOV); Holland, Meegan (GOV)
Subject: re: How people in Flint were stripped of a basic human need: safe drinking water

Hi Lindsey,

In your Michigan Radio documentary on Flint water, you missed an important piece in your timeline, where you wrote “...And once Detroit realized Flint was going to leave its system, it jacked Flint’s water rates up even more – to the tune of \$10 million over the two years the new pipeline would be under construction.

So in the spring of 2013, Detroit kind of had Flint over a barrel.

It was state treasury officials who got creative.

Their solution?

Forget Detroit, Flint’s emergency manager said. Let Flint get really cheap water from the Flint River.”

That’s not factual information for your readers and listeners. In fact, in the spring of 2013, the Flint City Council, and Mayor Walling, made the decision to switch to Karegnondi, and in the meantime, take some of its water from the Flint River. This was approved at the city council meeting in a 7-1 vote on Monday, March 25, 2013. Their decision was then sent to the emergency manager to approve. In fact, at the time, Flint City Council President Scott Kincaid said “I’ve never been a fan of staying with Detroit.”

It is critical to note that Flint and Genesee Co. had been in discussions to start their own water authority for years before this decision was reached. They had been gathering information on a switch and leaning toward that decision far before the Gov. was even in office.

Here is a link to the city council resolutions, as well as a comprehensive story from 2013 on that city council’s decision.
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/03/flint_city_council_approves_re.html

This needs to be corrected, and quickly. Please let me know if you’d like any additional information or resources to add to the timeline of events published yesterday.

Thank you,

Anna Heaton
Deputy Press Secretary | Gov. Rick Snyder
o: 517-241-6049 | c: PPI
@Republicanna