

Widigan, Robert (TREASURY)

From: Widigan, Robert (TREASURY)
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2015 11:48 AM
To: Hollins, Harvey (GOV)
Subject: FW: Flint Water Advisory Committee Meeting 03-19-15
Attachments: Veolia-Flint-Water-Quality-Report-03.12.2015.pdf; Flint-WTP-Improvements.pdf

Good morning, Harvey:

It was good seeing you yesterday.

Below is a summary of yesterday's meeting, with attachments that I sent out this morning. There was a great deal of information discussed at the beginning of the meeting before you arrived. I wanted to pass it along to you.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please let me know.

Thank you,

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From: Widigan, Robert (TREASURY)
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2015 11:32 AM
To: Byrne, Randall (Treasury)
Cc: Workman, Wayne (TREASURY) (WorkmanW@michigan.gov); Koryzno, Edward (Treasury); Cline, Richard (Treasury)
Subject: Flint Water Advisory Committee Meeting 03-19-15

Randy,

Yesterday's meeting was very informational; however, discussion was cut short by understandably upset water customers. The main points of information relayed during yesterday's meeting are as follows:

1. The City provided a table of water improvements* currently that the City is in the process of implementing or currently evaluating.
 - o The City has built a hydraulic model to assist the City in identifying the locations of bad valves.
 - o The City restructured four outstanding Drinking Water Revolving bonds allowing the City to afford an additional \$2.24M towards Capital Improvements in Water. With \$2.24M the City will:
 - i. Installing a \$1.5M Granulated Activated Carbon Filter (GAC). This will provide the best reduction possible and provide better than 90% removal of total organic carbon (TOC), dramatically reducing the potential for total trihalomethane (TTHM) formation. This entire project needs to be done by early June to assure a flow of water throughout the system. Several months are required for the engineering design, State approval, bidding of work, and installation of the GAC. According to the Veolia report, this process needs to begin now.
 - ii. Accelerate repair and replacement of valves, estimated at an additional \$120K annually.

- iii. Implement a process control management plan (PCMP) to increase efficiency and professionalism by allowing operators on the day shift to communicate with the night shift, ensure operators follow the same treatment plan for the water, ensure adjustments are unified between all operators, and inform staff as to what the process is when water quality set points begin to drift away from its desired quality levels. This will help the City transition to lake water. Estimated at \$25K annually.
 - iv. Automate plant operations to allow the City to monitor activities throughout the entire plant, estimated at \$450K.
- 2. Department of Public Works director Howard Croft provided a breakdown of FY 2015 Water and Sewer budgeted expenditures*, and explained 96% of the \$70M is needed if the City uses DWSD or river water as its source.
 - 3. Also provided was a document* with answers to all 61 questions asked at the last Water Advisory Committee.

Suggestions for the City:

- 1. The facilitators seemed to have inexperience in mediating or controlling the flow of the meeting. This led to upset outbursts from the public, which stopped any information from being communicated to the public. The City may wish to hire professional mediators with experience in facilitating large public meetings.
- 2. The agenda did not include time for public comment. This gives the perception that the meeting is "closed off" to the opinions of the residents.
- 3. It was mentioned by the Mayor, that the City charges an initial cost of \$425 to new renters. This fee appears to be higher than anticipated, and more information should be provided regarding fees and fee structures.

If additional information is desired, please let me know.

*Sources: City of Flint, Water Advisory Committee meeting handouts (once received from the City they will be provided to anyone interested) and Veolia's Water Quality Report, dated: March 12, 2015.

Regards,

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