

The following is a verbatim transcript from the Council of the Whole Meeting held Monday, March 18, 2002, Water, Sewer & Rubbish Committee on the Metro Regional Transit Pipeline Occupancy Agreement:

Mr. Snyder: Chairman McLaughlin.

Mr. McLaughlin: Yea, we have the METRO Regional Transit Pipeline. Tom, I'm going to give - I take it Roy you're - or excuse me Tom, have you read the contract over?

Mr. Treadon: I have not.

Mr. McLaughlin: Okay. Tom, go ahead I can...

Mr. Benekos: May I address that?

Mr. McLaughlin: Okay.

Mr. Benekos: We received a draft...

Mayor Rice: Wait. I think what you have in there in your packet too with both those agreements were initial reviews by Roy. I think Roy has reviewed both of those, made some suggestions and changes that then were taken back and made. So...

Mr. McLaughlin: Will we...

Mayor Rice: I think you'll have a chance to have Roy give you an update on that but I - I don't certainly don't want to speak for Roy, but I think he's basically reviewed the - both those contracts and has found them I believe to be acceptable. But you'd have to get his formal opinion on that.

Mr. McLaughlin: That's why you know, I just got the packet Friday and I was reading this over and I know that he's not in town...

Mayor Rice: Yea.

Mr. McLaughlin: and I was kind of concerned because I did yellow a couple things that I'm concerned about in that contract and that's why I wanted to see where we were and everything else like that. But Jim go ahead and give...

Mayor Rice: Can speak to the contract.

Mr. Benekos: That was basically - we did receive a draft several months ago. Roy did review it, make make his comments. I contacted METRO about them, they agreed to those changes and that's where this contract is.

Mr. McLaughlin: Now they're taking the pipeline straight up the railroad?

Mr. Benekos: Correct.

Mr. McLaughlin: Okay. All the way out to our treatment plant. Question I had - one of the questions, maybe you can answer it for me, is under that - okay it says about us where we have to pay \$1,500 a month upon execution of this agreement on the first day of January - the calendar year.

Mayor Rice: That's another year.

Mr. Benekos: Yea.

Mrs. Magel: It's number 2.1.

Mr. McLaughlin: We're paying them...

Mayor Rice: Annual. Is that...?

Mr. Benekos: Yea.

Mr. McLaughlin: The question I had - couple questions I had. We're them \$1,500 to lease that through there, but yet they can terminate this at any time they want to?

Mr. Benekos: No. That clause was taken out. Is that in this copy that you have?

Mrs. Kiesling: Yes.

Mr. Held: 2, 2.1?

Mr. Foltz: Page 2 under license fee term

Mr. McLaughlin: Yea.

Mr. Benekos: Okay.

Mr. Foltz: 2.1.

Mrs. Magel: Yes.

Mrs. Kiesling: We have it.

Mr. Osborne: Yea I have it in mine as well.

Mr. McLaughlin: It says... will pay a fee of \$1,500.

Mr. Benekos: Right.

Mr. McLaughlin:(?) ... when execution of this agreement on the first day. Do we not have the right contract?

Mr. Benekos: The \$1,500 annually is in there, but there was a clause in there that said upon any reason they could tell us to to remove the waterline and that clause was removed. If you find it in there let me know.

Mr. McLaughlin: Well why - let me ask you, why why are they charging us when Canton got to do it for nothing? I'm just asking that question.

Mr. Benekos: Canton their waterline went in when the right-of-way was owned by the railroad.

Mr. McLaughlin: Okay.

Mr. Benekos: This right-of-way is owned by METRO and they paid a lot of money for the right-of-way and they feel that they want to recoup some funds for it.

Mr. McLaughlin: But they also have - they have it in there that they could raise that on a yearly basis too according to the consumer price index.

Mr. Benekos: Right.

Mr. McLaughlin: Which I'm concerned about too is I'd rather this say a flat thing, you know.

Mr. Osborne: Yea, a fixed fee.

Mr. McLaughlin: Yea I'm I'm you know, that's one of the things I want to talk about...Roy. There's a couple other things too I was I was want to talk about Roy too. I mean the idea I say you know, I have no problem with that - the idea I like. It's just some of the wording in the contract and some of the things I'd like to see changed if it's not too late it's - but Jon.

Mr. Snyder: Well my only question that we're - we have a right-of-way into perpetuity in this now? Is that correct?

Mr. Benekos: That would be my understanding.

Mr. Snyder: Well we're not in a very negotiable situation here. I mean we're crossing their land...

Mr. Benekos: Right.

Mr. Snyder: and we're at their mercy. Am I right in that Mayor? Have we - we don't have a lot of room to talk - I mean we

Mr. Treadon: We have no leverage.

Mr. Snyder: just paid that guy for a small pipe up there on Butler a couple thousand dollars. We're talking about a 24 inch waterline that we - and again it justifies and I don't mean to sound smug, but justifies our increase in water rates. I mean we - it's another niche that we - we're raising our rates to compensate for our expenses. I think the overall program it's the first time since I've sat through any meeting on water that it shows that we do have some general direction where we're headed...

Mr. McLaughlin: Oh yea.

Mr. Snyder: and it's actually laid out into, you know, a plan that makes a lot of sense. And I don't know that we can really afford to be arbitrary with those people and their land, because obviously...

Mr. Benekos: We did raise that question with them - the amount. We would of rather paid one lump sum fee up at the beginning, but they're - they pretty much stuck to they wanted this for their own reasons - an annual fee. I've pretty much said I know how government works and agencies work and probably after the first year they won't remember to bill us and he kind of agreed but said this is the way they want to do it. So...

Mr. Snyder: Well this belongs to the government this land?

Mr. Benekos: It belong to METRO...

Mr. Snyder: Railroad.

Mr. Benekos: No Akron Metro - Metropolitan Transit, the bus - Akron bus system.

Mr. McLaughlin: This is where they're running that train system that new - isn't that that new train system they're running up...

Mr. Benekos: Where they want to run it.

Mr. McLaughlin: Right. From here up to Akron.

Mr. Snyder: Oh, I didn't know that.

Mr. Foltz: Cuyahoga Valley.

Mr. Benekos: Yea.

Mr. McLaughlin: Yea the other thing I - the other point that was just brought up to me was on 2.4 it says that they can have us if we default or whatever they want to tell us to get off they have removal of the pipe. We have to remove the pipe?

Mr. Benekos: Yea, if we default then they can ask us to remove it. But I...

Mr. Snyder: 2.4.

Mr. McLaughlin: Say - like I said there's some warning here. I'm just not I - the concept like say, we definitely needed to do that.

Mr. Treadon: The point is if we default, don't pay them, then they can ask us to remove the pipe. We're paying for right-of-way that's what we're paying. The consumer price index, all that means is you're paying \$2,001 forever - or for the length of the agreement.

Mr. McLaughlin: Well could be no - it could be the consumer price index goes up 4 or 5 percent in a year.

Mr. Treadon: If we're...we're paying \$1,500 in today's dollars.

Mr. McLaughlin: Right.

Mr. Treadon: That's what that means. So if you pay them in 2003 \$1,585 that means you're paying \$1,500 in 2001 dollars.

Mr. McLaughlin: But we're paying them.

Mr. Osborne: Yea, you're still paying money; it's outflow, cash.

Mr. Treadon: Yes.

Mr. Osborne: As I understand that we're paying \$1,500 for as long as we use it.

Mr. Treadon: Right.

Mr. Osborne: And then when we abandon it we lose the pipe and the right-of-way.

Mr. Treadon: Right.

Mr. Osborne: I kind of go along with Rick, I don't think this is written very well in our favor.

Mr. McLaughlin: Before - Chuck before you do that I gotta - I gotta...

Mr. Treadon: What leverage do you have to negotiate that?

Mr. Osborne: Well I haven't been involved in all the deep negotiations but...

Mr. Treadon: But that's what Jon was saying, what leverage do we have to negotiate a better deal?

Mr. Snyder: Nothing.

Mr. McLaughlin: Nothing.

Mr. Osborne: Won't someone else be using this pipeline as well? We're buying Canton - I would think Canton would have some involvement in this and some interest.

Mr. Snyder: They're already there. Canton has its line as far as it needs...

Mayor Rice: It's our pipeline - nobody else's pipeline.

Mr. Snyder: It's our pipe. It's proprietary to the city.

Mr. Foltz: Yea.

Mr. Osborne: True. But we're pay - putting in the pipe and we're going to be buying a product from Canton. I would like to see Canton help us with these negotiations. It's in Canton's interest...

Mr. Treadon: Good luck.

Mr. Osborne: It's in Canton's interest that they assist us in these negotiations.

Mr. Treadon: What benefit did they receive?

Mr. Osborne: We're buying a product from them forever.

Mr. Treadon: Once we get the line. We've got to have the line to buy the product.

Mr. McLaughlin: Yea.

Mrs. Kiesling: If we need it.

Mr. McLaughlin: Before we go on with this line of questioning, I took this out of committee and I'm sorry but Doug as part of the committee, I got to have Doug help you. Words...

Mr. Foltz: I've dealt with the railroad and let me tell you if you've never dealt with the railroad and I'm not here to demean the railroad, it's hard to get any type of agreement set down in writing with them. So if we've looked at this and Jim you've looked it over or Roy's looked it over, I'm - I understand the questions here. But if they're allowing us on their right-of-way and it's very difficult to get anything done over there with any type of railroad, let's move forward with it in my opinion. And I take that - I take the questions that are brought forth here under consideration - I understand them. Chuck those are good questions and you got good questions too Rick. But just to get to this point I don't know if we want to rock the boat on this anymore.

Mr. Osborne: So we're just renting the space...

Mr. Foltz: It's right-of-way.

Mr. Osborne: while we're using it.

Mr. Foltz: It's right-of-way that they're allowing - if not then we can't put this pipe I, it's that simple. They don't have to agree to do this.

Mr. McLaughlin: I think the other thing - the question I - the reason I brought the question up was I thought there was type of - we could you know somehow get a little bit more reasonable. But that 1500 I guess is reasonable. I'm just asking some of terminology.

Mr. Foltz: We'll just make...

Mr. McLaughlin: No problem with because the other way - the other way to go is going to cost us

three times as much as going up through there.

Mr. Foltz: That's right.

Mr. McLaughlin: So you know, it is - technically it is a good deal for \$1500 considering the other route we have to go up Whipple Avenue and it's going to cost a fortune for two reasons. One, it's going to take the time...

Mr. Foltz: Streets.

Mr. McLaughlin: And second of all is replacement of all the streets and everything else. Where there is a limited replacement here. The reason I brought the question up when I thought it would be - you know since Canton got away with nothing I thought that we could you know...

Mr. Foltz: Right.

Mr. McLaughlin: I didn't know there was non negotiable. I deal with the railroads on a daily basis and I know

Mr. Foltz: You know...

Mr. McLaughlin: that they're sometime difficult, especially the EP and SP and the same thing with B&SL. But sometimes they are negotiable. But seeing that it's a private line the way it is and it's more of a scenic type of - could be scenic - probably not. But I just brought the question up. But I - for project...

Mr. Foltz: Well...

Mr. McLaughlin: I'm definitely in favor of it. Reason being is we need to do this. There's a drought coming this summer. We need to get on this thing as quick as we can.

Unidentified: I hope not.

Mr. McLaughlin: I can live with - I can live till next week and get with Roy. Hopefully Roy will be back this week.

Mr. Treadon: Roy's already reviewed this though.

Mr. McLaughlin: I know. I just want - a couple questions I like to ask him. That's all I'm saying.

Mr. Treadon: I don't know when Roy's going to be back.

Mr. McLaughlin: Well I'm sure he'll be back before next Monday night.

Mr. Treadon: I don't know.

Mr. McLaughlin: But there's a couple questions

Mr. Foltz: Well what...

Mr. McLaughlin: I... to ask him when he get back.

Mr. Foltz: Do we need to pass this on emergency?

Mr. Snyder: No.

Mr. McLaughlin: No. But I think we can give it three readings.

Mr. Foltz: Okay, that gives you some time.

Mr. McLaughlin: That's why I say I'm not in no hurry.

Mayor Rice: Well let me clarify that.

Mr. Foltz: Of course the summer's...

Mayor Rice: Let me state a couple things I guess. Can we go back and continue to negotiate with these people and try to get it from \$1500 to 1250 and you know nickel and dime them back and forth a little bit? Sure, that certainly is a possibility. I think the bigger picture on how the administration is looking at it folks is we are fine right now but things have been very dry the last couple years. Rich can speak to the water tables in the ground. Last I saw on on national news here a couple weeks ago they showed a map they showed every state east of Ohio has been all winter long under a water advisory because of low water tables all along the east coast starting with Pennsylvania and West Virginia and going east. We're under a time challenge here to try to get a backup supply of water hooked up to our water system for this summer prior to the hot, dry months of this summer. About the best case scenario right now is we can get this line hooked up and ready to flow in July. If if it's council's wishes for us to go back and continue to negotiate we will certainly do so, but you will not have a water supply this year. And then you need to please instruct the administration where you want us to get water or if you just want to shut off our customers this summer. As far as an emergency Rick we've got - our hopes are to start construction May 1st. We anticipate about a 60 day project, which would take May and June. That's how we get the July when we hope to be finished. If everything - and that's again if everything goes best case scenario. So if it's council's wish to have us proceed with this we need this thing passed and online probably by mid April. So we really don't have time for three full readings and the 30 day delay after that. So if this is something we want to move forward with and we think it's a prudent thing to do as a city, we need to move on it now. If you - if you want to ignore that for this year and take a chance, we can delay this, go back to negotiation table, try to squeeze a couple more bucks out of METRO, some other terms. But you're probably looking at missing the hot dry season this year of having a backup water source. So that's your choice as I see it.

Mr. Osborne: Mr. Mayor, now this - I applaud you for your efforts for thinking ahead. If I understand you right this is a stop gap measure to get us through this season. Do you anticipate additional water reserves in the future where we won't need to depend on this?

Mayor Rice: I wouldn't call it a stop gap. How we term it this is - we see it as an insurance policy.

Mr. Osborne: For this year or for many years or...

Mayor Rice: For this year and for the foreseeable future until the time comes where we have enough backup water supply under our own ownership; if and when that ever happens. That's not an easy thing to do and it's not a cheap thing to do. It would be beautiful if we didn't have to worry about something like this. But we're very fortunate to have - when we are in a situation where our supply is somewhat fragile. Cause as I said before we've got enough to supply all of our customers that's not the issue. But if water tables in the ground start to dry up due to the hot, dry weather this summer. The last several years we've had watering bans and advisories we've had to put on because of that. Heaven forbid if some catastrophic event would take place and we'd lose a well for whatever reason, we don't have a fall back, we don't have a reserve supply, we don't have a backup to go to you're going to have city water customers without water coming out of their spigot and I find that unacceptable. So our - what we've been trying to do in the short term this is the best solution we know of. I'm hopeful down the road we don't have to use this as a source. But right now I think it's irresponsible for us to not to provide some backup to our water customers in case of an emergency and...

Mr. Osborne: Well if East Maple comes in would that that would take away the urgency?

Mayor Rice: Yea but I don't foresee that being a viable - again we have a you know, even if we got a complete bill of health of that today it would be very difficult to complete that and let me remind council something, especially those that have been here for a few years, about - what it is Jim about 60 percent or so of this project is a project we were doing anyways. If you remember the plan was with East Maple over a couple years ago, was to develop East Maple, run a waterline from East Maple to Price Park. Phase II was to do what? To build a...

Mr. Snyder: Redundant line.

Mayor Rice: redundant line from East Maple or the Dressler Well Field area up the railroad track to the water treatment plant. So from Dressler to the water treatment plant was something that's been in the plans for the last couple years. So really all we're talking about adding to that is going from Dressler down to Everhard Road. That's really the only new part of this project we're talking about.

Mr. Osborne: What's the...

Mayor Rice: And the beauty of this is even if East Maple comes on and we still are very hopeful that will, you're still going running a waterline hopefully in the next few years from East Maple, complete that line to Price Park that guess what is going to tie into this new proposed line going up and down the railroad track to get that water ultimately to the Water Treatment Plant. So this isn't a - this isn't a single source waterline. This waterline is both to give us a backup to Canton with the Canton system and ultimately our hopes are it will be able to hook that what is now empty waterline to nowhere, eventually give us water and it will run into this same pipe.

Mr. Osborne: Well you can only run so much water through it. I guess.

Mr. McLaughlin: I guess the question I have is...

Mayor Rice: It's where it comes through - from though. I mean we can run the water from East Maple through the same pipe that we're running from Canton. We're just not turning on the valve to Canton and we're turning on the valve from East Maple. They're still - it's going to travel the same pipe at least from Dressler to the Water Treatment Plant.

Mr. Osborne: Well how much is this going to run?

Mr. Snyder: 800,000

Mayor Rice: What cost wise?

Mr. Osborne: Uh huh.

Mayor Rice: Right now we estimate Jim...

Mr. Benekos: 800,000.

Mayor Rice: in the vicinity about 800,000. But let me be very clear, that is not a final cost. And we are not - we're not sitting here trying to represent the council that's going to be it. There are some other issues we're dealing with as far as getting up there and we don't have a definitive final cost estimate on that. That's what Jim's estimate is at this point in time. So don't shoot us if we come back and say it's going to be a little more than that.

Mr. McLaughlin: I think the one problem - one of the things I had and the reason I brought the question up, is in our packet is a letter from November the 5th, 2001 to Jim Benekos from Roy that had a couple questions. One of them that said in light of the substantial investment the City of North

Canton will be making in this waterline potential fees will be paid in construction, I find this provision unacceptable and are requesting you contact - and we have nothing else besides that letter. And you're saying that - you're saying that those are resolved. That's what I'm - that's more of what I'm questioning.

Mr. Benekos: Right. This agreement addresses that.

Mayor Rice: They're reflected in the agreement you've got.

Mr. McLaughlin: Okay. Now see now he didn't say that in the letter.

Mr. Benekos: Okay.

Mayor Rice: That's right.

Mr. Benekos: Yea Roy's letter of November...

Mr. McLaughlin: Yea and I'm...

Mr. Benekos: it's...

Mr. McLaughlin: he should of - he should of put in that little attachment saying corrections are done and made and everything else.

Mr. Snyder: November?

Mr. McLaughlin: You know because if you look at this you look at you know. That's why I'm - just a couple things I have. But if you're saying their done that's fine. I mean I'm for - I'm for the waterline. I just wanted to make sure that some of the objections we have from the November 2001 are in there. I just wish that Roy would of put a little sub note in there saying I addressed them, blah, blah, blah and you know.

Mr. Benekos: He didn't know that. He gave me this. I negotiated with METRO, we got clause out.

Mr. McLaughlin: Okay.

Mr. Benekos: So this - this agreement is a result there. I don't if Roy has seen this one since.

Mr. McLaughlin: Okay. See we're not mind readers on council.

Mr. Benekos: Right.

Mr. McLaughlin: All we do is read what we get.

Mr. Benekos: I apologize I should of put that in there that it addressed.

Mr. McLaughlin: That's the questions I have that I want - but that's fine I mean I have no problem with getting this thing going. I mean I'm sure we can address some issues. I can talk to Roy this week when he comes back or next week. I have no problem. Jon.

Mr. Snyder: This is a clean - other words this copy that we're in possession of is a clean copy?

Mr. McLaughlin: Correct.

Mr. Snyder: So this is what we have? Okay.

Mr. McLaughlin: Okay.

Mr. Snyder: And we'll be now - my understanding Mayor you want this an an emergency next week?

Mayor Rice: Like I said, well we need to have it - we need to have it if we're going to get it done hopefully by July - again I'm... If you want it done - try - have us try to get this thing done and water flowing by July, we need this thing passed so it's in effect as of about mid April.

Mr. Snyder: Well then that's as an...

Mayor Rice: You've got a few weeks. You don't have to do it next week. You could do it your first council - formal meeting in April, which I think is the 8th.

Mr. McLaughlin: Yea we could pass it the first time next week and then...

Mayor Rice: Yea you can.

Mr. McLaughlin: Okay.

Mayor Rice: Then you can - you can have just a first reading next week probably and then you could go look at it again the 8th...

Mr. McLaughlin: With emergency clause in it.

Mayor Rice: So you've got time to consult with Roy. We're not asking for you to rush into this tonight. That's why we rushed to get it on this week.

Mr. McLaughlin: That's fine.

Mayor Rice: So we could get it to you as quickly as possible so you had more time to do it. Take the time you want to to get your questions answered by Roy. We're not saying they're - the questions are invalid. We understand where you're coming from. Do we think it's perfect? No, but we've to balance...

Mr. McLaughlin: Okay.

Mayor Rice: What we can do against the health and welfare of the city.

Mr. McLaughlin: And I agree 100 percent. We talked about this before and I think it's it's a good insurance policy that we have. In fact tonight when I was leaving Channel 5 had a story about the upcoming drought this summer. And I didn't get to see the whole story but I know that they said since winter's been light the eastern part of the country and everything else...

Mr. Snyder: We need to sell water.

Mr. McLaughlin: there's going to definitely be a water shortage. So...

Mayor Rice: Very little snow. Best recharge you can get is snow and we've had very little snow this year.

Mr. McLaughlin: Yea, so I you know I - but Jon no problem with this for...

Mr. Snyder: No sir I don't have.

Mr. Osborne: Of the total...

Mr. McLaughlin: Inaudible...council. I'm sorry, Kathy, I'm sorry...

Mrs. Magel: No, I don't have any problem. I just wanted to say Rick I think you did the responsible thing by asking these questions. As it is we have the contract and then we do right after that have a letter suggesting there was problems with the contract.

Mr. McLaughlin: Yea.

Mrs. Magel: And Tom had said he hadn't read it. And you hadn't had the opportunity to speak to Roy. And so I think you did the responsible thing to say that there's some questions here that needed to be addressed. So now that we got this all cleared I understand that you will then...

Mr. McLaughlin: Yes.

Mrs. Magel: speak to Roy before Monday and then...

Mr. McLaughlin: Get back...

Mrs. Magel: you as the head of the committee we will...

Mr. McLaughlin: Inaudible...I will get back with most of the people...

Mrs. Magel: Okay then we will take a - you at your word next Monday. And then if...

Mr. Foltz: Inaudible...

Mr. McLaughlin: And I will have...

Mrs. Magel: We'll put it on emergency and you will have the answers and...

Mr. McLaughlin: And I will have Roy issue a statement if he gets back in.

Mrs. Magel: Right.

Mr. McLaughlin: Something in writing saying yes I've read the contract. Yes everything's been addressed. And I think that - I think that'd be fair.

Mrs. Magel: I just think you did the right thing. This is quite - you know we're not lawyers and there was a question involved here and...

Mr. McLaughlin: Okay.

Mrs. Magel: And a - so I support what you did tonight and questioned this. And...the answer.

Mr. Osborne: Mr. Mayor.

Mr. McLaughlin: I think Marcia's got a question.

Mrs. Kiesling: Nope, no I'm fine.

Mr. McLaughlin: Okay now Chuck.

Mrs. Kiesling: We need to do it.

Mr. Osborne: Mr. Mayor of the total project what percentage of this is the extra that's going to be running on down to meet the Canton lines? What percentage of the total project?

Mayor Rice: That's what I said - we estimated what 35, 40 percent guys...

Mr. McLaughlin: Right.

Mayor Rice: something like that. A minority share of it.

Mr. Osborne: Okay so so...

Mayor Rice: Majority of it was going to happen anyways to handle East Maple.

Mr. Osborne: So roughly 600 grand was already going to happen or planned to be happen in the future.

Mayor Rice: I'd say that's probably a rough estimate, yea.

Mr. Osborne: So we're looking at \$300,000 for the insurance policy basically.

Mayor Rice: That's that's how I look at it yea.

Mr. Osborne: Well are there any other options any other connections that were possible?

Mayor Rice: Yes.

Mr. Osborne: Consumers, Stark Metropolitan?

Mayor Rice: There's - the other options we looked at all were either generally a combination of more expensive and longer time frame to make happen. This is the quickest and least expensive route we could find.

Mrs. Kiesling: To make this clear it's being pumped to our plant and treated and then pumped back to us.

Mayor Rice: Correct, that's correct.

Mrs. Kiesling: We're not drinking Canton water.

Mayor Rice: So every customer is on the North Canton water system will get the same quality product exactly.

Mr. McLaughlin: Right. It will only be turned on in the case of an emergency. That is when the Mayor declares it's an emergency we have to go to it or whatever.

Mayor Rice: Well we wouldn't - we wouldn't declare an emergency Rick cause we hopefully would never have an emergency then.

Mr. McLaughlin: Right right.

Mayor Rice: But if we ran - tables were low to where our current wells were being strained or like I said we had a...

Mrs. Magel: As needed.

Mayor Rice: catastrophic event or something like that...

Mr. McLaughlin: Yes.

Mayor Rice: or well went down or something like that where we needed some water to keep our our levels up, we'd turn it on and take what we need and that's it. There's no no guarantee that we're going to buy any amount of water or anything like that.

Mr. McLaughlin: It's an insurance policy.

Mayor Rice: It's an insurance policy.

Mr. McLaughlin: That's all it is.

Mayor Rice: Plain and simple.

Mr. Snyder: Yea.

Mr. Osborne: I would like to see some drawings as to the actual path of the planned route that you mentioned earlier and then the additional to connect onto Canton if you have some some charting.

Mr. Benekos: Inaudible...

Mr. Snyder: Chairman McLaughlin you can attest to the alternative if we don't do this can you not by your constituents?

Mr. McLaughlin: Oh believe me I can. We had this three, four or three years ago...Canton water in the southeast end. It had a reverse flow and I tell you what...

Mr. Osborne: I remember that.

Mr. McLaughlin: My phone - my phones were ringing up like a like a...I'm telling you.

Mr. Foltz: Yea because the pressure was greater coming out of the Canton line in that area of town.

Mayor Rice: There's a - there's a

Mr. McLaughlin: I'm telling you this is the best thing that you could...

Mr. Foltz: And that was with the fire hose that was running across Market Avenue I believe. That was our emergency hookup at that point.

Mr. McLaughlin: I'm telling you this is...

Mr. Foltz: I guess this is a little bit more engineered.

Mr. McLaughlin: Yea, this is a little bit more sophisticated number one. Number two is...

Mr. Foltz: They've come light years from...

Mr. McLaughlin: Yea we're treating the water and I think I think it's...

Mr. Foltz: the way we handled things three years ago.

Mr. McLaughlin: But I...

Mayor Rice: You guys all want to take one of those maps there and pass them around. Jim did a little map for everybody.

Mr. Osborne: Is there - this all on one page?

Mr. Snyder: Yea.

Mr. Held: All one page. They're all the same.

Mr. Osborne: Okay.

Mayor Rice: You only need one. Take one and pass it down. They're all the same.

Mrs. Kiesling: Thanks Jim.

Mr. McLaughlin: I I think that...

Mayor Rice: Here's this map what this does it gives you if you - they're all color coded the same right?

Mrs. Kiesling: Oh I'm impressed.

Mayor Rice: What this...

Mr. Benekos: Right, except for Rick's.

Mayor Rice: Alright. If you look at this map, there's all kind of colors here. The pink color that is the proposed line that we're talking about that will hook us up to Canton. Now you see the green line there right below where it says Dressler Road? That was that line that was going to hook up East Maple which is the orange. The orange is what's in the ground now. The part of that East Maple line that never finished. Phase II was taking it from the orange to the west there if you will towards the pink line. That was going to go over and hook into then to both the blue line and the pink line. So from that that intersection of the green and the pink, north was the old existing project - that's not new. The only part we're talking about is from the green line south down to Everhard Road. Does everybody see that?

Mr. Foltz: Yep. That's Phase II from last year. Right.

Mayor Rice: That was going to be Phase II that never got off the ground because Phase I never got finished. Phase I got stopped because of the problems at East Maple. So orange is what's in the ground, green was the rest of that project that was never finished, blue is your - that's what's existing there now that feeds both Dressler and Price Park to the Water Treatment Plant and the pink is what we're talking about doing here that will provide the hookup to Canton. As you can see it just runs straight up the railroad track till we get to the Water Treatment Plant and then it hangs a west and shoots right into the building. Does that answer your question Mr. Osborne? Does that help you?

Mr. Osborne: It looks like that's the entire project then right? From the...

Mayor Rice: Yes.

Mr. Osborne: Water Treatment Plant down to Everhard. That's what we're talking about.

Mayor Rice: Yes. But all I'm telling you is from the Water Treatment Plant to the green line is what was the project that was already Phase II.

Mr. Osborne: Planned. Okay, I got you.

Mayor Rice: Phase II before.

Mr. Osborne: I got you.

Mayor Rice: That was talked about over the last couple years that was going to happen once once

East Maple finished this was going to be built as a redundant line as Jon calls it and that's exactly what we talked about. Redundant line going up here. So that half, more than half there, went north. So really the new part of what - that's going to get us to Canton is just the part from the green line down. That's all.

Mr. Snyder: I'm sure the Chief...

Mayor Rice: Whatever that section represents.

Mr. Snyder: the Chief of fire service is here and I'm sure Chief you'll sleep a lot better knowing we have potential two million gallon of water if your crew needs it. More so than anybody.

Mrs. Herr: Yea, don't forget Rich over there.

Mr. Snyder: Well Rich don't worry he sells it he don't care who buys it.

Mr. Steinhebel: You're also you're also putting a backup line for 27 year old line that's now feeding the plant. Okay. So we've got an option if that line should fail we can switch over and come down that 24 inch line straight down. Either one of those lines fail you always have a backup. And the EPA highly recommends this whole...

Mr. Lindower: Project.

Mr. Steinhebel: plan we have here okay because of the redundancy. Canton has the largest supply of surplus water.

Mr. Snyder: Someone told me they...

Mr. Steinhebel: ...fine one to go to.

Mr. Snyder: they have four day - have the potential to pump 45 million gallon a day. Is that true?

Mrs. Magel: It's in here.

Mayor Rice: They've got they've got plenty. A matter of fact I think...

Mrs. Kiesling: It's in there somewhere.

Mrs. Magel: Yea, it's in there.

Mayor Rice: It's in the packet here.

Mr. Foltz: It's in the packet Jon.

Mr. Snyder: Is it?

Mrs. Kiesling: Yea.

Mayor Rice: Because in one of Roy's letters...

Mr. Snyder: You've got the numbers...

Mr. Osborne: Yea I saw that.

Mayor Rice: was the question of what their surplus water is. So...

Mr. Snyder: Yea I read that and didn't...

Mr. Foltz: It's right it's right in the packet, you'll see it.

Mr. Snyder: Yea.

Mayor Rice: So you've got it in there.

Mr. Foltz: Rich, I had a question. The blue line, I know you're not looking at anything.

Mrs. Magel: You told yourself when you read it.

Mr. Snyder: I must of read it.

Mr. Foltz: The Dressler Well Field can we run, once we get these lines hooked up, can we run the Dressler Well Field into the water plant, the Water Treatment Plant and also say the East Maple possibly Price Park waterline at the same time?

Mr. Steinhebel: Inaudible...

Mr. Foltz: Where you can't do that now, right?

Mr. Steinhebel: No as far as...

Mr. Foltz: See...

Mr. Steinhebel: ...we've got plans that there'll be a cross over by just making ... disconnects

Mr. Foltz: Right.

Mr. Steinhebel: for air ... inaudible...

Mr. Foltz: See that's another advantage here.

Mr. Steinhebel: It provides about three different ways of backing up our system.

Mr. Foltz: So before we just had one line running into the plant...

Mr. Steinhebel: Right...inaudible...

Mr. Foltz: and no matter what we were drawing out of the aquifers through our wells that was it. Now we have two ways into the plant once we - once this is...

Mr. Steinhebel: We have two supplies so to speak.

Mr. Foltz: Right. Definitely.

Mr. Snyder: Alright.

Mrs. Magel: We have a plan.

Mr. Osborne: Mayor is it possible - Mayor is it possible to get a little summary of all the other options and the time frame that you would anticipate it would take to accomplish those?

Mayor Rice: I suppose I...

Mr. Steinhebel: Inaudible...lot of options.

Mayor Rice: I suppose I suppose we could. I'm not sure what the purpose of that would be. It seems to me with all the things we have to do that are constructive I don't know what that's going to accomplish but...

Mr. McLaughlin: I don't think it's going to do anything. I think...

Mr. Osborne: It's it would be interesting to see what possibilities there were out there, time frames to complete them and approximate costs.

Mr. Held: That was already done...

Mayor Rice: Well like I said I'll be I'll be glad to work on that. But to be honest with you it's not our top priority with the - we've got more immediate concerns quite honestly to be done and I'll - we'll certainly get to that when we can. I don't I don't see that as something have them - have these guys spend a lot time on recreating. To me I think that's

Mr. Osborne: Well you've already studied this and and...

Mayor Rice: Yes we have. And we've made our decision based on the information we got and the expertise of these two gentlemen and the rest of the department heads of the city.

Mr. Osborne: Well...

Mayor Rice: And I guess I guess the bottom line is you guys can either go along with that or not go along with it. That's..

Mr. Osborne: Well a report...

Mayor Rice: We're making our recommendation. So...

Mr. Osborne: A report such as that would give us a good idea of the water sources that our competitors have around us and how they're able to tap in if - it just gives us a better overall view of what's available in the area and how they integrate with our system or could integrate.

Mayor Rice: Well it's pretty simple, you got a couple options. You got the City of Canton to hook up to, you got Consumers Water to hook up and you got developing new water fields. There's only two other suppliers of water in the area and it's either that or you dig your own holes.

Mr. Osborne: Well I understand that. The locations, what it would take - you've already studied this I'm sure you have it.

Mayor Rice: We've got hook up we've got hook ups to the Consumers but Consumers is in just as bad bad - doesn't have surplus water, put it that way.

Mr. Steinhebel: Our pressure is much greater than Consumers.

Mayor Rice: We're in better shape than they are.

Mr. Steinhebel: Our pressure is much greater to our systems so they cannot supply us without a fire truck in between them to pump the pressure up into our system. We have a high pressure system here.

Mr. Osborne: Okay that...

Mr. Steinhebel: The only ...

Mr. Osborne: Information like that's good to know it tells us a little bit about their system.

Mr. Steinhebel: We looked at all these options ... and technically the least amount of cost is coming down through the Canton line along the railroad tracks and do not interfere with the roads. Consumers doesn't have enough water in my estimation to supply us. Okay. Or the pressures to push it to us. This way we are taking it straight to our plant, it's on the same line that we have our plant on so we again redundant systems and also having this coming directly to the plant and we jack the pressure up that we need to maintain our systems.

Mr. Osborne: I'm not against the plan, I just like to know what other possibilities were out there, time frames, roughly dollar costs. It educates us, I think, to what - how we integrate with Consumers, how we integrate with METRO - Stark Metropolitan, how we integrate in with Canton...

Mr. McLaughlin: I gotta I gotta go get this off here because we're getting off track because we're talking about the agreement and I think you know that's that's a topic for another discussion because we've got some other stuff to get on with tonight.

Mr. Osborne: Well that's part of this...

Mr. McLaughlin: I think it's - I

Mr. Osborne: process. We need to know what options were considered...

Mr. McLaughlin: Well think I...

Mr. Osborne: Why they were discounted...

Mr. McLaughlin: I think that we've already went through that Chuck. The process was that it was the quickest and it was the most efficient.

Mr. Osborne: Well I like specifics on the others though.

Mr. McLaughlin: But I think that you know, I think they've done their homework. I think it's something that they've done their homework and...

Mr. Osborne: Well turn the homework over to us and let us look at it.

Mr. McLaughlin: Well I think that they've done it. That's their full time job Chuck. I think that there's where we differ. I'm saying...

Mr. Foltz: Well...

Mr. McLaughlin: for the chairperson over it, I'm I'm saying let's go with it...

Mr. Foltz: Right.

Mr. McLaughlin: Jon do you have any problems with that?

Mr. Snyder: No sir I don't. I think again I think it shows finally we're moving in the right direction. We're planning things and it's all tying together with some type of overall scheme. And that's what I wanted to see and that's seem to be in. I commend the administration and water service on both that.

Mr. McLaughlin: And I and I agree - Doug.

Mr. Foltz: Yea, let's move forward.

Mr. McLaughlin: So let's let's put this on for next Monday night.

Mr. Osborne: So you don't want to see what options were available and the specifics.

Mr. McLaughlin: Chuck, I think that it's redundant when when they said that this is the best possible plan that they come up with. It's the quickest, it's the cheapest - I think you know you keep reiterating that you don't trust them that you want to see everything.

Mr. Osborne: No, I'm not saying that.

Mr. McLaughlin: I mean just that you want - if any questions afterwards let's talk about it and you can talk to them.

Mr. Osborne: It broaden our knowledge as to what Consumers is doing and how they would connect. What Stark Metropolitan, how they would integrate with us. I'm not against the plan...

Mr. McLaughlin: Well let's let's...

Mr. Osborne: I'd just like to know the big picture.

Mr. McLaughlin: I think I think afterwards you can sit down with Rich and the Mayor and go go to it and ask them any questions you want. But I think right now I think there's a couple other issues we got to get on them. I don't think anybody else is...

Mr. Osborne: Nobody's curious?

Mr. Foltz: It's out of committee let's just move forward with this.

Mr. McLaughlin: That's what I say. Let's just go...

Mr. Foltz: And he can get his other information later.

Mr. McLaughlin: Yea, that's fine. Let's...

Mr. Foltz: Alright.

Mr. Osborne: So you don't want to broaden your knowledge?

Mr. McLaughlin: It will be on next next - it will be on next Monday night. There will be an emergency clause in it for you Mayor and...

Mrs. Kiesling: Are we passing it on emergency next Monday night?

Mr. McLaughlin: No, no, no. It will be one reading...

Mrs. Kiesling: And then...

Mr. McLaughlin: And then the emergency.

Mrs. Kiesling: Alright.

Mayor Rice: That's fine.

Mr. McLaughlin: Okay? Let's go on to the second part.