

WPCC COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 3, 2010

The joint WPCC meeting was held at the WPCC Plant. Chair and City of Willoughby Councilman Mr. Harrold opened the meeting at approximately 6:00 p.m.

In attendance from the City of Willoughby: Councilman Chris Wooden, Councilman Bob Harrold, Councilman Bob Carr, Willoughby City Engineer Jim Sayles, John Lewins, C.T. Consultants and Service Director Angelo Thomeselli. Also present were WPCC Plant Superintendent Jack Gorka, Steve Araps and Diana Passwaiter. Also in attendance was Council Clerk Ms. Radebaugh.

In attendance from the City of Eastlake: Councilman Ken Hoefle, Councilwoman Laura DePledge, Councilman Joe D'Ambrosio, Councilman Dennis Morley, Councilman David Knuchel and Eastlake City Engineer Mr. Gwydir. Service Director Mike Semik was absent and excused. Also in attendance was Council Clerk Mrs. Cendroski.

I. ANNUAL REPORT: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (See Attached)

NPDS Permit:

Mr. Gorka: We are permitted by the National Pollution Elimination Discharge System – this allows us to discharge waters into the waters of the State. We have a new permit. There is a five-year permit cycle. With a new permit there are things they want us to do. It can be something the EPA has been telling you for a while will be coming. The last permit cycle we had hardly any changes at all. There are a bunch of changes for this one. Hence, the expanded agenda and more things in the Executive Summary because things are coming and things they want us to do that may or may not impact things in the future depending on the outcome we get from testing.

1. Eastlake Port Authority Agreement

Mr. Gorka: We still do not have an agreement with the Eastlake Port Authority in regards to leasing the property next door so they can do their business. We are – at this point – Mark Cain of the Port Authority went to Willoughby's Law Department with a proposal with delineation of the property they wanted to include in the lease agreement. It was a bigger piece of property than Willoughby thought would be involved in the lease so the Law Department sent it back with a smaller piece. We have not heard anything since. The Law Department has not heard anything. I guess it has ground to a halt.

Mr. Knuchel: From our perspective – we have been working on this for a couple of years – trying to get something hammered out between the City of Willoughby and the City of Eastlake and the Port Authority. Mr. Gorka informed me there was some information that went back to our Law Director of which I was unaware. There may be something else in the works with our Mayor that is outside of what we were working on. So, I am not sure exactly where that stands right now. The property in question seems to be – and it always has been – there is an "Exhibit A" from the original lease agreement between our two Cities – there

seems to be some differentiation between what each one of those items are. Our Port Authority has one item that shows that portion “A” and that has been a bone of contention between the two parties. From our end, that is most updated information I have.

Mr. Thomeselli: I think the way Willoughby looks at it is there is insurance the Port Authority carries – we are not on that policy. If something happens they will go after all the parties – Eastlake, Willoughby and the Port Authority. Somewhere along the line I think we should be recognized on that policy. In case something does happen and there is a big lawsuit we would be high and dry.

Mr. Knuchel: I remember, and I could be wrong, we have had several generations of this go back and forth. I think that was ironed out.

Mr. Gorka: I think the agreement had all sort of things that were at issue – the delineation of the property, generating profits – it is all in the agreement. Now we are down to what does the agreement - now we are down to what does the agreement encompass. We said we would allow the part in attachment "A" to be used by the Port Authority. On the Port Authority's attachment they took this section and all the way to Erie Road. Willoughby was not sure all this was needed for the Port Authority. The Law Department referenced the area where they were currently docking boats. The Salmon Club was outside that little piece but as far as I know that is as far as it went and no one responded.

Mr. Knuchel: I have not heard – I think they were going for all of what schedule “A” referred to – which did include the property to Erie Road. That was the last I heard and our Law Director said there were some issues between the two Law Directors. Basically, it is a little bit further than last year at this time. But, again, it is just ironing out the issues – the indemnification. I think all that has been straightened out and gives Willoughby and Eastlake equal powers about what goes on and it really works to keep that property for recreational purposes. It gives the Port Authority a 25-year lease which they needed to apply for State and Federal monies if they wanted to make improvements.

Mr. Morley: I am the new Council President. I spoke with Mayor Andrzejewski and Mr. Klammer last night about this issue. As Mr. Knuchel said the Mayor wants to do something with the Port Authority and I am against making a lease for the property that Eastlake and Willoughby own. I am going to meet with Mr. Klammer and the Mayor again because I do not think Eastlake will get its own separate agreement with the Port Authority - Willoughby would have its own separate agreement. The land is owned and shared by Eastlake and Willoughby right now. Rather, it is owned by Willoughby but from what I am told the agreement provides as long as it is used for recreation. I am trying to be delicate with the Port Authority and the Salmon Club because Ms. DePledge and I met with the Salmon Club a couple of weeks ago and the Salmon Club feels the Port Authority wants to get some power and a lease so they can start pushing them around.

Mr. Knuchel: Our lease took care of those issues so that no one would be pushed out.

Mr. Gorka: Willoughby and Eastlake both agree as to what goes on. We are not trying to prohibit anything. There are certain things to make people aware of in case there are odor issues or anything like that. As it is now there is no document. Right now someone is renting canoes over there – what if someone gets hurt. What if something happens?

Mr. Thomeselli: How big is the Salmon Club?

Mr. Morley: They have an Executive Board.

Ms. DePledge: To clarify things as far as the property. It was my understanding that Willoughby owns the property and we have a lease with them to use the property and there are deed restrictions for recreational purposes. Eastlake has sole authority over that property and Mr. Klammer said he did not think that – there has been document going back and forth that is supposed to be modified – but, from a legal standpoint we don't need anything.

Mr. Knuchel: That is Mr. Klammer's position.

Ms. DePledge: So, now if anything would happen on that property it would be the City of Eastlake – if someone wanted to join the Port Authority they could do that. I hope that clarifies things a little bit.

Mr. Knuchel: That is Mr. Klammer's position – that is not shared by the Willoughby Law Director. That is why we worked together to put a document together to bring both Cities together and cover both Cities with indemnification for things that would happen down there. As Mr. Thomeselli stated – if something goes south down there our names are on the lawsuit.

Ms. DePledge: It is okay if Willoughby wants to be on the lawsuit too.

Mr. Thomeselli: I would rather have our name on the insurance. There has to be something – Willoughby has to have something on that lease.

Mr. Knuchel: And, that is why we approached it the way we did to make sure everyone was covered and make sure everyone is happy. We want to bring this thing to culmination.

Mr. Gorka: I think we got to the point where we satisfied all the issues that were involved. Especially if there are profits being generated from a portion of the property – how would that be partitioned out and who would be responsible for that profit generation and paying taxes. As it is now – I know it happened with Willoughby before – an entire piece of property got sent to the County and the County decided to tax the entire airport because they were generating a profit on one little piece by private enterprise. You can't do that. Willoughby is concerned about that. I think we have all that addressed – at this point it has gotten bogged down again about how big a property the Port Authority wants to control. We made it smaller than they want. Potentially, we will have to develop this front for the plant – the equalization basins for the SSES. We don't want to right off the bat say they can use all of it and then they start doing something and we take it back. Because we will need it. It is

pretty much clear cut in the agreement that if we need it – we get it back. So, one can even argue that a piece of what they want we have a gas well in the middle of – that meets the definition of “using” but, they can do their stuff around it.

Mr. Knuchel: Once the lawyers get together...

Mr. Gorka: It is good to know someone is bringing the issue up again to the Law Departments.

Mr. Thomeselli: I do not think it is up to the lawyers – it is up to Council to come up and say this is what we are going to do instead of them arguing back and forth.

Mr. Knuchel: Two Council members worked on this – me and the former Council President. We got to the point where we needed to bring it to the Law Directors to get their input and their review. That is when we got our Law Director and your Law Director involved and they have been going back and forth. We got something from Willoughby we did not like and we tweaked that. Are you probably right in saying we are not going to have an agreement next year? I would hope not – I would hope we can have something done so this can be notched off the agenda. But, there are some issues that need to be ironed out between the two Cities and right now it will have to be the Mayors and the Law Directors because we, as a Council, have taken it as far as we can. We cannot enter into the agreement – that will have to be done by the Mayors and Law Directors.

Mr. Thomeselli: Doesn't Council make the laws?

Mr. Knuchel: Yes, but without their support and their backing. We cannot sign the agreement.

Mr. Gorka: All that really needs to happen is the Port Authority sign their part of it and I am sure we can find someone to sign ours.

2. Gas Well

Mr. Gorka: We drilled the gas well and when I wrote this report things were going well. But, it seems that – and they said they had a similar problem develop with the gas well by the school – it is starting to fill with fluids and we are producing oil but not as much gas. We did get some royalty checks – last month about \$1,400. They are still being optimistic right now that this is a little phase but they said this is following a similar track as that well at the school. It starts to fill with fluids and you get more oil out of it. The production starts to drop off daily. The good news is – it did not cost us anything. We have not run the line yet – they recommended we should give it a few more months. If it steadies out and does not continue to drop then we can continue to think about doing something. But, at this point they are not throwing in the towel – but, it is not a solid producer.

Mr. Knuchel: Are the royalty checks for the gas or oil?

Mr. Gorka: We have not received any for the oil yet – they are waiting until the tanks get filled. We received two checks – they are about 3-3 ½ months behind. We just received the full month of November last week. That was about \$1,400. And, the gas market is pretty depressed. There are not big prices out there. But, I am hopeful. I am not interested in tying into the plant or spending any money.

3. Northeast Section of the Ohio Water Environment Association

Mr. Gorka: We had the Northeast Section of the Ohio Water Environment Association Operations Training meeting on March 26, 2009 – 150 people came from all over – they rented the Croatian Hall and had a daylong seminar. Everyone was impressed. We even got a plaque. It is one of those things – to get recognized by your peers as someplace they wanted to go and tour is an example of what a good organization we have and what a nice plant we have due to all your efforts to keep us well funded.

4. National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Parameters

Mr. Gorka: As always we perform within our permit limits. We have minor violations all the time but we monitor a million things we have to report to the EPA. You always have a few things you fail on but there is nothing wrong with this plant. We have no imminent threat of any findings and orders.

5. Average Flow

Mr. Gorka: Our average flow last year was 6.492 million gallons per day – every day it comes in – not stopping.

6. Flooding

Mr. Gorka: The flooding – the SSES discussions were started a long time ago. Mr. Sayles will speak about where we are with this. It ended up being in our permit to find out why we have such large flows and what to do about it.

Mr. Knuchel: Are there any repercussions to these two additional surcharge events with the EPA?

Mr. Gorka: The surcharge events I mentioned are the ones that cause the plant to flood in the back end. That means there is not enough head to push the water out into the lake – so, the plant starts to flood. The problem is not going away. We are not getting the events with the circumstances that will cause us to flood to where we were as bad as we were that one time. We are in a bowl and if you cannot get the water out we will flood the whole thing and shut everything down and it would be a disaster. It would take us months to recover. We take 6 ½ million gallons in a day and if we can't because the plant floods - it is still coming – it has to go somewhere and that means it would go into the environment and be a bad thing. That is why what we are doing with the SSES is the right course of action. The EPA realized that needed to be done too.

7. Outfall Diffusers

Mr. Gorka: We have been checking the outfall diffusers which got knocked off kilter by the ice. I did not look at them last fall because I wanted to look at them this Spring to see if there was any change from last year. There did not appear to be much change from the year before. The ice piles up and gets deep at the edges – that is what damages the outfall diffusers. We will go in April or May and video the current state of those diffusers. If they have not changed at all from the way they were before – Mr. Sayles and I have gone back and forth on this – it is one of the things that needs to be taken care of but it is expensive. It is not one of those critical things considering we are doing the SSES. These are critical times to commit large sums of money to fix things – it is not going to impact the plant immediately it is one of those things we will put off. But, we are going to continue to mention it and take a look at it as long as you know there is some damage out there.

Mr. Gwydir: When you say expensive?

Mr. Gorka: The first time I went with what the diver that was looking at it said – and, I don't think he is really an engineer – but, he was giving a ballpark amount of about \$200,000 to actually fix it. He had some experience with fixing Euclid's – they had a similar problem and had theirs fixed. It was not a hard, firm thing. I want to see what it looks like – if there is no big change or any change then we will keep this on the back burner. It would be up to you if you want us to pursue it or have an engineer look at it. I think the video tape would be a good start. The solutions to it are not cheap.

Mr. Sayles: Our advice to Mr. Gorka is to do exactly as he has said. Just monitor it – do the annual inspections – not a cheap inspection but an annual inspection. If something is moving out there as a result of the ice this winter then it is probably time to start the process for a repair to happen in next year's budget.

8. Satellite Sewer Discharge Control Program (SSDS)

Mr. Gorka: The Satellite Discharge Control Program is – basically Willoughby runs the plant and not all the collection systems. I am not even in charge of Willoughby's collection systems – you guys are all satellites. The EPA made us make these programs – you passed ordinances on maintaining your collection systems giving us some kind of limited authority. One item is – the EPA in the new permit wants everyone to be a Class II operator of their collection systems. Willoughby has Class II's – Eastlake doesn't – Timberlake and Lakeline are satellites of Eastlake. I think this will give you a little more push on Timberlake to make an agreement for you to take over their collection systems too because they do not have any licensed personnel. They don't have any sewer personnel – they have one person who takes care of the whole City. I know in talking to them there has been discussion with someone in Eastlake to get an agreement for maintenance of their system. They got some free money and are doing a huge project - they will line all their sewers. So, if you entered into an agreement you would not have to do a lot of work over there because it will all be brand new when they are done.

9. National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit

Mr. Gorka: There were a bunch of things in the permit. SSES was the main part of the EPA's NPDES permit – find out why we overflow. And we are not alone. When the EPA decides to have an imitative to stop things everyone gets it in their permit. But, I think they realized that we have not had an SSES for a number of years – since 1984. So, they made sure they put some more teeth in our permit.

Along those lines, bio-monitoring – we have to do some toxicity testing. We never did it before. I mentioned it last year that we may have some problems because our affluent discharge killed minnows and water fleas – we let them live in our affluent and study their response. Well, ours die after living in it a period of time. We are pretty sure ammonia is causing it. We have no ammonia limit but they are talking about ammonia limits for Lake Erie. They think that is part of the algae problem. The minnows are dying. I think they know what it is too. They are having us do annual monitoring where it before it was once every five years. Now, they are going to tell us after July what to do. I am not sure what they are thinking. They may not say anything. The EPA sometimes moves fast – sometimes hardly at all. In the late 1980's – 1990's our minnows died and they didn't do anything. This seems like – they wrote it in our permit that we have to do annual testing – it has to be in July which is the worst month – we will see where this takes us. The worst case scenario is that we have to nitrify. We have to modify this plant to nitrify. I have no idea of how much that will cost. I have had discussion with C.T. Consultants.

Mr. Sayles: We are talking millions of dollars.

Mr. Gorka: We are not a nitrifying plant – we were not designed to do that.

Mr. Sayles: The plant is not set up to deal with that. By saying millions I mean \$2 million.

Mr. Gorka: Once again, I try to bring things up way ahead of time. This would be a slow moving thing and the EPA will not hammer you tomorrow and say you have to do this. This could take five or ten years. This is on the horizon – something new – something that could potentially cause problems.

Mr. Knuchel: Besides the ammonia what else are they testing for?

Mr. Gorka: They asked me to test three times. The first batch was dead – they said do this – the second batch was dead – they said do this modified thing – that proves to them it is ammonia because you could eliminate the ammonia in a way and everything was fine. So, that's pretty much what it is. They left it at that but they did not make any interpretation. I will send in the report in July.

10. Elimination of the Bypass of Wastewater and Overflows (Pertains to SSES)

11. Joint Agreement Modification

(Pertains to SSES)

12. July, 2010 Bio-Monitoring

(Pertains to SSES)

13. Mercury Variance

Mr. Gorka: I have been talking about mercury for a long time. It has been a long time coming and it is finally here. They gave us a permit limit that is so small that you cannot meet it. They realize that and they know no one else can meet it. They allow you to apply for a variance which gives you a number you can meet. All the time they want you to strive to meet the number you cannot meet. Part of that is to create a mercury program with the best management practices and this means we get to go out and knock on every sources door – everybody just about because the amount of mercury is so small – to help stop mercury. Every dentist will be permitted - everyone who is a source of mercury. We submitted a plan but have not heard back – but they will accept it and part of the plan is going to locations, sampling and determining where it is coming from. There are a whole host of known sources – hospitals – the list is huge. It will be a huge hunt for what we know we will find – mercury. Then we will show the people the best way to try to keep it out of the system. You may end up hearing from your constituents asking why – we are doing this because they are making us do it. The good thing is the mercury coming into the plant is getting lower and lower so the fact that they are banning mercury in just about everything is working – there is not that much out there. But, you will never meet the numbers they want you to. Of our pretreatment program one guy will be doing this forever – going door to door.

14. Technical Justification for Local Industrial Use Limitations

Mr. Gorka: We submitted those and should hear back today that they liked what we did. We will keep them so you won't have to pass any ordinances for tighter limits on the industries in the Cities tributaries to the Plant. Times are tough enough without us ratcheting down on industries for discharges for metals.

15. Ohio Pretreatment Rules

Mr. Gorka: We are going to have to go out to every discharging satellite community for pretreatment streamlining. It really means a whole bunch of Federal legal stuff that has to be put in Ordinances that really in the end does not mean anything different then what we are doing. The Feds decided they wanted to make things simpler and created more stuff we have to put in ordinances. We have to notify everyone who dumps a drop of water in our system – they have to change their ordinances to match the improved pretreatment ordinances. We will be available to go to any Council meeting.

16. Pretreatment Compliance

Mr. Gorka: We did not get inspected again this year. They leave us alone. They know our program works great. In extra strength waste we totaled \$342,000 – that is the surcharges. This is for the discharging of waste - optimally you should be within a range of typical domestic sewage and if you are not we charge you because you are putting a bigger burden on

the plant. We change the surcharge rates every year and charge according to the cost of the plant. Some years they go up or down. It is flow and loading dependant. There is a capital component that I have added in through the #773. I look at it as part of the cost of running the plant. We have to adjust those every year by pretreatment mandate.

Willoughby Councilman: What is the percentage of increase put on some of the businesses?

Mr. Gorka: They dropped a couple of cents this year. We included the history of where they started and the increase. There were times when the cost of this plant has dropped.

Ms. Passwaiter: The industry is counted also – if their flow is down they may not go up either – it works the same way. Their averages could go way up and their flows go down - it does not mean they will get a real high surcharge rate.

17. Routine Maintenance.

Mr. Gorka: We have an excellent maintenance staff. We would be here all night if I listed all the things they do. Some of the bigger things we do – the bypass damper.

18. Personnel Costs

Mr. Gorka: We had one employee retire at the end of the year – I have delayed in replacing him to save on personnel costs to try to make some room for an Assistant Superintendant. We have not had one for a long time. The Cities have saved quite a bit of money through that and with the retirement of pretreatment coordinator in 1996 – we have not paid for one of those either. But, as the engineers have recently pointed out I am getting old – there is a push to find a replacement. If you could just find someone – but you can't. I was just at a seminar where they are trying to figure out how to replace people with institutional knowledge. There are 114 Class IV plants in the State of Ohio and only 92 Class IV's. There is no one out there. They don't have enough to cover all the plants they have. Most at the seminar are ready to go. The young guys are not interested. It is an industry wide issue.

Willoughby Councilman: What are the processes for Class IV?

Mr. Gorka: You need to be licensed as a Class III. It is all tests. Once you get your Class III you have to operate under a Class IV for at least two years and participate in two budget processes. Then you have to submit your Class IV book – it is you writing about you and what you think – what you have published –what you have done –how your plant works.

Mr. Sayles: Hence, the City Engineers' recommendation that Mr. Gorka needs to get that person in here while he is still here.

Mr. Gorka: We will be looking at this – there is nothing guaranteed because I do not know if we will find someone.

Mr. Sayles: Internally, the Class III's that are here are also around the same tenure and the younger guys are farther down and are not superintendant material yet.

Mr. Gorka: I have hope for the young guys I have been bringing in.

19. Safety

Mr. Gorka: As usual, four minor accidents.

20. Erie Road Trunk Sewer

Mr. Gorka: We are now regularly inspecting the Erie Road trunk sewer – there has not been much build-up. We think that helps in getting the water to the Plant.

21. Budget

Mr. Gorka: The budget is in the report. We are 2.3% lower than last year's combined appropriations – 2.2% higher than last year's actual expenditures. With the exception of bringing on the Assistant Superintendent I do not anticipate a lot of different costs. We should be around what we spent last year. I am not sure whether Willoughby will have raises – there is a lot of that going around - in which case the budget does not change much at all.

22. Equipment Replacement Fund

Mr. Gorka: The engineer's have recommended the equipment replacement contribution may need to be increased.

Mr. Knuchel: By a percentage?

Mr. Gwydir: It is my ongoing concern that the diffusers or any number of things could go down the road. Mr. Gorka is concerned about his staff retiring. In coming from 15 years of building treatment plants bar none the folks here do more with less than I have ever seen anywhere. I am afraid we will be in for a little bit of a shock as these folks leave. Both in terms of the ability to run the plant as well as the motivation to do some of the things that are now done in-house. We will have to start to contract out and that will drive the prices up. This has been an ongoing concern.

Mr. Harrold: One big half million dollar project could cripple us.

Mr. Knuchel: It was brought up last year – we are coming into our budget hearings and it is always nice to plan in advance. Last year we talked about the same thing that the amount of money in our capital budget has been going down because we have used it for some of these projects.

Mr. Gorka: Our unencumbered balance is about \$450,000. That would be something for the Finance Directors. I cannot tell you how much we would need. I know C.T. Consultants has some kind of basic program they think would cost somewhere down the road. My approach has always been - rather than have a \$15 million or \$20 million expansion or upgrade – to spread it out like we have been doing over the last 15-20 years. We got half way through the final project – the weather shut us down. But once the rehab is done they are good again for another 25 years. We do not need to do this in a huge thing. Over the last five years I have been repairing all the brick work in the buildings. For about \$15,000 - \$20,000 we fix the

buildings – next year we do it again. This should be the last year – there is one building left. Our guys have replaced all the roofs. Bit by bit we are doing all these things that would have been done in a huge project somewhere else. As far as knowing what kind of money we want to set aside – to me it goes back to what the Cities feel is comfortable – or, if the Engineers can make some recommendation. I think they are doing \$150,000 now which is \$75,000 per City. If you want to do \$100,000 and put it in the replacement account.

Mr. Sayles: A rough analysis would be how much you spent out of that fund over the last five years. That would give an idea of how much you probably should be putting into the account. The fact that it has been shrinking means we are spending more.

Mr. Gorka: A huge hit was the Force Main project – that was a huge hit. That fund was rolling along – I could not spend the interest in a year. That project did some real damage.

Mr. Knuchel: I think from my perspective as a Councilman I would rather be putting a little aside every year and build up that fund so when we get hit with these big things we do not have to come back and say we need \$150,000 and we need it now because we have not planned in advance for these eventualities that we know are going to happen. Do you have a five year or three year plan as to what may need to be done?

Mr. Gorka: I have a capital plan that I provide to Willoughby's Finance Director every year. It is kind of a rolling plan. I want to wear it out before I fix it. The next one is the head works – the bar screen building – it is rotting and the screen system that is in there needs to be replaced. With stimulus money- we costed it out – about \$800,000 – that is looming in the next couple of years. I have a list of those things going. If Mr. Sayles has a guideline of the expenditure for a set-aside it would be up to the Committee to make a recommendation to the Finance Directors as far as increasing the set-aside.

Mr. Sayles: We should give the Committees a date as to when we can get them the information and the recommendation – say June?

Mr. Gorka: Okay, we can do that – with the increase number. In the meantime let your Finance Directors know it is coming.

23. Flow Meters

Mr. Gorka: The flow meters worked excellent again. It changed 2.02% from the year before in Eastlake's favor. It is something we recommend continuing to do.

Willoughby Councilperson: With the cost of doing the metering, if the metering is so consistent are we better off just saying this is the charge – save the engineering and metering time?

Mr. Gorka: There are changes – it depends on the year - if we get a real wet year and it depends on the flow. If we have inflow issues that is Eastlake – infiltration issues are

Willoughby. In a dry year Willoughby is better – wet year Eastlake is bad. If we did away with the metering you would never see that.

Willoughby Councilperson: I would be interested to see how much variance you had over ten years – what is the monthly cost for metering – is it significant?

Mr. Gorka: Not really.

Mr. Sayles: The flow meters with the SSES seem to be the biggest percentage of the cost.

Mr. Guard: It is done four times a year. I check the meters in the presence of the Willoughby Engineer and it takes a day. The cost for me to do that is rolled up in the retainer I charge the City. The meters are constant.

Willoughby Councilperson: There is no charge for the meters.

Mr. Sayles: The agreement between the two Cities requires the City Engineer to do that. The previous, previous, previous Administrations and Councils had some real serious problems between the two Cities and this rose up out of that. Willoughby was tending not to report to Eastlake and Eastlake wondered if they were getting cheated. That evolved out of that. The requirement to do that is written in the contract.

Willoughby Councilperson: I was concerned about the man-hours – if this was costing \$50,000 per month to do this why were we wasting all that money.

Mr. Sayles: Mr. Gorka has provided me with the February split which I review to see if there is something strange – that takes about 30 minutes a month – it adds up to about \$7,000 – \$8,000 per year.

Mr. Gorka: While we are doing the meter calibration I am giving them the update of what is going on in the plant. It is in the agreement that we get together and talk about the plant so the Engineers and Cities know what is going on. Since they are here doing that we are talking about the plant. I think it is worthwhile – it has worked out and has gotten us to this point where things are routine and run really smooth.

24. Capital Improvements

Mr. Gorka: We put in the emergency by-pass damper – it was really close to budget. We tried a new design. We found a company that just makes dampers – we replaced that stack twice in 14 years – stainless steel being eaten up by the leakage from the damper – they recommended a new damper – it cost about \$10,000 to purchase it – no leaks – no steam out of our incinerator all winter.

The rehab is going along well – we are halfway through – the weather shut us down. It took a lot longer than expected. The one tank looks really nice and we will not have to do it again for 25 more years.

Mr. Knuchel: Since the project was spanned over two years was that in your 2009 budget and did you encumber money to finish the project?

Mr. Gorka: Yes.

25. New Replacement Projects

Mr. Gorka: There are new replacement things I want to get – they are basically just pumps. The incinerator by-pass damper – we usually had a spare because they were always leaking but this one is doing so well you can approve me to buy it but I may not do so. The final tank scum pump – the plants last expansion was in 1985-86 – pumps wear out. I can replace some of these out of my budget and I did the last years as they went bad but these things are big enough items that they take a knock out of certain parts of my budget. If I put them into the replacement fund I can get them out of the money we set aside for the bigger things. You have to have a spare incinerator exhaust gas scrubber pump.

26. Commitment to Perform Sewer Rehabilitation Projects

Mr. Gorka: Our commitment is to reduce I & I and with our new permit that is what they are forcing us to do.

II. SSES UPDATE

Mr. Sayles: Our staff has met with the City Engineers to go over each City and determine the probably location for meters. It was determined that 21 meters will go in. There are 10 locations. We are finalizing the contract with the subcontractor who will buy the meters and install them. They should go in the middle of March and will be tested to make sure they work with everything starting April 1st for 60 days. Hopefully, we will catch some good rainfalls in April and May. The next step of the process over the next couple of weeks is that our staff will be meeting with the respective Sewer Departments of the Cities to try to gain some of their anecdotal knowledge of what has been going on. That helps us interpret the meter data when it comes in. We are starting the process, compiling the maps, set the meter locations – the meter locations may change because the contractor may have recommendations. We are on schedule to meet the February, 2011 submittal of the report to the EPA. Willoughby has 10 meters and Eastlake has 11 meters.

III. ASH BENEFICIAL REUSE

Mr. Gorka: We incinerate and we generate about 950 tons every 9 months. We were part of a beneficial reuse project since 1994 that the EPA approved us for to take our ash to use as a soil amendment with a local nursery in Madison. It saved us – even if the tipping fee at the landfill is \$30 per ton every time we clean – we do not have to pay that. We haul it to the nursery who takes it for free and uses it to fill holes from removed trees. They will take all we haul to them. The EPA has decided that the rule that they had allowed us to do that under is not legal. Since they did not have a law or regulation to govern that their legal counsel told them to pull all the permits for people who are using this stuff – anyone else who had an incinerator. We are now re-asking them to allow us to do this. I am not sure how this will turn out – I hope they will say this is not a problem. I had to do \$1,000 worth of testing we are still waiting on – I had to do radon testing – radioactive testing – dioxins - \$1,100 worth

of testing that I am waiting for the results. I am pretty sure we have clean ash because we have been doing similar testing since 1994. If the EPA decides to nuke us I have to come up with some money to haul it and dump it at the landfill.

Willoughby Councilperson: Do they have any suggested alternate plans other than taking it to a landfill?

Mr. Gorka: No, but they were the big ones who pushed the beneficial reuse – it keeps it out of the landfill and keeps the landfill open longer. But, they are the ones who decided they would make us re-apply.

Mr. Sayles: Also, the air pollution arm of the EPA does not like sludge incinerators. There is a motivation in the agency to make it difficult - they would just get rid of incinerators.

Mr. Knuchel: If we did not incinerate what do we do?

Mr. Gorka: Haul it long distances. Mentor has a compost facility – a huge area – they have the space. There are a bunch of different processes. Incinerating is cost effective for us because we own the incinerator. If we were going to incinerate from scratch today we would not do it. But, since we built it in 1975 and it has been paid for all we do is maintenance and the costs associated with it. I do that annually. Even with the huge spike in natural gas years ago it was still cheaper to incinerate. The only way I could save money is to lay off about 5 guys. Since we are not incinerating you do not need to run an incinerator anymore so I can get rid of them. I don't know whether that will go over very well and how well that would work. We still need to get rid of the stuff. If you go to any other process we have the capital expense of installing that process. I spoke with C.T. Consultant's about that a few times. This other process is a thermal process – you heat it and put lime in it – then haul it. You have to arrange for hauling and can't spread on frozen fields. There are a lot of issues. In my mind incinerating is the end all – be all. I can burn anytime - 365 days a year. I can take care of the sludge without having to worry about those other things. It has always been and still is the way to go. If it was cheaper to do it any other way you know I would. But, Mr. Sayles has a valid point – the EPA has never liked incineration because it is not environmentally friendly and the hydrocarbons you use to burn the stuff and the hydrocarbons you create – but, I still meet THC's. They tried to squeeze everyone out by doing that. So, we installed a system to monitor the hydrocarbons - we meet the hydrocarbons. I am bringing this up just in case something bad happens and we end up having to haul it to the landfill – we will have to come up with the tipping fee.

Mr. Gwydir: What was the financial arrangement with the gas well?

Mr. Gorka: The reimbursement is shown on the front of the WPCC monthly reports. It says "Gas Well Royalties" and the income gets split per the flow split.

Ms. Passwaiter: The first one was \$510 and the February bill was \$1,482.

Mr. Harrold: We will talk about building up this replacement fund when you get something to us in June.

There were no further questions or comments.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:20 p.m.

dac

