BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF TROUTDALE MULTNOMAH COUNTY, STATE OF OREGON

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

January 26, 1993

PRESENT

GENE L. BUI, Mayor
DAVID C. RIPMA
BRUCE THOMPSON
KAREN BURGER-KIMBER
PAUL THALHOFER
MARJORIE G. SCHMUNK

- 1 MAYOR BUI: Moving on, we now -- I believe it's time that
- 2 we can proceed with our public hearing, and this is in relation
- 3 to an intergovernmental agreement for cable regulations --
- 4 amending the intergovernmental agreement for Cable Regulatory
- 5 Commissions. I will first ask if there are any -- I will first
- 6 close our hearing as council and open the public hearing and
- 7 ask if there are any conflicts of interest, any communications,
- 8 or any ex parte contacts?
- 9 I have the ex parte contact since I'm a member of the
- 10 Commission, and I have been working on this. I believe Mary
- 11 Beth Henry is here tonight from the Cable Regulatory Commission
- 12 from Portland to discuss this. Would you please come forward.
- MS. HENRY: Good evening. I'm Mary Beth Henry with the
- 14 City of Portland Cable Office, and have been assisting staffing
- 15 the Joint Cable Regulation Consolidation Task Force which was
- 16 charged with coming up with a consolidated commission. I
- 17 appeared here two weeks ago along with Julie Almachek (ph), and
- 18 responded to questions at that time. I don't have any formal
- 19 remarks prepared, but I'd be happy to answer any questions.
- 20 MAYOR BUI: So basically what this is, then, this is the
- 21 ordinance as a result of our previous presentation by you and
- 22 Julie concerning the unification of the two cable franchises
- 23 in Multnomah County into one; is that correct?
- 24 MS. HENRY: Well, the franchises will remain separate
- 25 until the new commission takes that issue up. What this

- 1 intergovernmental agreement does is it joins a joint
- 2 commission, Troutdale, Fairview, Wood Village, Gresham,
- 3 Multnomah County, and the City of Portland would jointly
- 4 administer cable franchises within Multnomah County. And the
- 5 ordinance also provides that staffing for this new commission
- 6 would be provided by the City of Portland.
- 7 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. May I ask, while we're on the
- 8 subject, is it intended, for the public's information, that
- 9 there will be some savings for the cable users?
- MS. HENRY: Well, initially the savings will actually
- 11 accrue to the jurisdictions themselves. For example, for the
- 12 City of Troutdale, and I'm unable to cite a specific figure for
- 13 you until this new commission adopts its budget, but part of
- 14 the charge is that every jurisdiction will save money so that
- 15 franchise fees that you receive currently, some of those would
- 16 remain within your city's general fund to be spent at the
- 17 discretion of the city council.
- 18 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. Are there any questions? Okay,
- 19 then I will read the ordinance. This is an ordinance of the
- 20 City of Troutdale --
- 21 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: We need to invite the public.
- 22 MAYOR BUI: I'm sorry, I have to go through it. Have
- 23 another drink. Is there anything else that you'd like to add?
- MS. HENRY: No, thank you.
- 25 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. Is there any public testimony on

- 1 the proponents -- or proponents, I should say, that would like
- 2 to speak?
- 3 Any City Council questions?
- 4 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Mr. Mayor, I'd just like to say
- 5 that I think we -- this is the second time around on this one,
- 6 and I think most of us have -- at least I'm pretty well versed
- 7 on it, therefore I don't have any questions tonight. I wouldn't
- 8 want people to think we sit here like a bunch of dummies because
- 9 we have been here before, and so the questions I had, I think,
- 10 we asked the last time. But I know you have to go through the
- 11 procedure.
- 12 MAYOR BUI: Public testimony for opponents? Is there
- 13 anyone that would be opposed to this? Are there any further
- 14 City Council questions? If not, is there any rebuttal? I
- 15 don't know what the rebuttal would be but I'm just going through
- 16 this process. Is there further City Council questions? Is
- 17 there recommendation by staff?
- 18 MS. CHRISTIAN: Well, since, you were the
- 19 representative, I think I'll speak for the city, and we
- 20 recommend that we pass this, since I think most other
- 21 jurisdictions have already passed it except for this.
- 22 MAYOR BUI: Yes, that's a question I was going to ask
- 23 Mary Beth. Mary Beth, how many other communities have reviewed
- 24 this ordinance in the past?
- MS. HENRY: The ordinance has already been adopted by

- 1 Fairview, Portland, and Gresham -- five minutes ago? -- Gresham
- 2 and Troutdale are on this evening, although the County will be
- 3 hearing it next week along with Wood Village. So we would
- 4 expect that the new commission could be up and running the third
- 5 week in February.
- 6 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. Any further City Council
- 7 questions? All right, I'll close the public hearing and we'll
- 8 go back to our positions as city councilors. And now I will
- 9 read the ordinance for consideration for passage.
- 10 It is an ordinance of the City of Troutdale approving
- 11 amendment to the intergovernmental agreement creating the
- 12 Multnomah County Cable Regulatory Commission and authorizing
- 13 the City of Portland to joint -- to join the Joint Cable
- 14 Regulatory Commission. I didn't do that in one breath either.
- 15 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Mr. Mayor, I move to adopt the
- 16 ordinance.
- 17 MAYOR BUI: There's been a motion to adopt the
- 18 ordinance. Is there a second?
- 19 COUNCILOR RIPMA: I'll second it.
- 20 MAYOR BUI: It's been seconded. Any discussion on the
- 21 motion with a second? All in favor say aye.
- 22 (Motion passes: unanimous ayes)
- 23 MAYOR BUI: The next item on the agenda is an ordinance
- 24 and a public hearing amending Chapter 16 of the Troutdale
- 25 Development Code and including language from Oregon Revised

- 1 Statutes related to notification procedures for quasi judicial
- 2 land use actions. As it relates to that, I will ask if there
- 3 are any conflicts of interest, any ex parte contacts? If not
- 4 I will open the matter now for a public hearing and --
- 5 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Mr. Mayor?
- 6 MAYOR BUI: Yes, ma'am.
- 7 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: I have had ex parte contact
- 8 on this item because I was chair of the Citizens Advisory
- 9 Committee when this issue came before the CAC, and we gave our
- 10 recomm -- forwarded our recommendations to Planning Commission
- 11 and City Council at that time.
- 12 COUNCILOR RIPMA: And Mr. Mayor, I sat on the Planning
- 13 Commission when this came before the Planning Commission.
- 14 MAYOR BUI: Since I'm about to open the public hearing,
- 15 and we've had our declaration of challenges, can we have a
- 16 summary by staff on this, please. Mr. Cline.
- 17 MR. CLINE: Thank you, Mayor Bui, members of the
- 18 Council. You're going to hear those words again from me,
- 19 periodic review. Hopefully not too many times in the future.
- 20 We're about to wrap this up.
- 21 If you will recall we received notification from the
- 22 Department of Land Conservation and Development back in June
- 23 of '91, draft comments on what we had submitted permitting to
- 24 our periodic review. They broke it down into two situations:
- 25 County Farm related, which we've now taken care of, as far as

- 1 our issue of submitting that to the department. The other was
- 2 non-County Farm related.
- 3 One of the things that they had in there was a revision
- 4 to our Chapter 16 notification procedures. Back in '89 the
- 5 Legislature went through and tried to clean up and change some
- 6 of these notification procedures to further define what is a
- 7 quasi judicial, generally referred to as a Type 3, land use
- 8 decision. These are decisions which are made on basis of land
- 9 use that you require certain public hearings.
- We're not changing by this ordinance really any of the
- 11 procedures that we do not already currently follow or really
- 12 what, in my opinion, we'd already covered within the existing
- 13 text. But the way that this new legislation was written it says
- 14 that "and cities or municipalities shall incorporate this
- 15 language into their code."
- And so Jim Henman, who is our field rep with the LCD,
- 17 has indicated that we need to adopt this specific language and
- 18 put it in our code. So that's where that comes from. You'll
- 19 notice that what we've done by this ordinance is that you see
- 20 strike-outs where we're duplicating anything; the new language
- 21 is highlighted in the sort of gray boxes.
- There are two issues which were raised, one by Mr.
- 23 Jennings. If you'll look on page 2. Now, this was listed,
- 24 again, from state statute, and I think for clarification it
- 25 would be a good idea -- and I agree with Jim -- to add this

- 1 language. One would be to say that an issue which may be the
- 2 basis for an appeal to the board, that's that first sentence
- 3 under that gray section, that we specifically reference the Land
- 4 Use Board of Appeals because that is what it's referring to.
- 5 The other on page 3, if you'll look, we do have reference to
- 6 the hearings office. It's the hearings officer. We left an
- 7 "r" out so it was a typo on our part.
- 8 The only thing that is different are that we have
- 9 changed, and the LCD has indicated there's not a problem with
- 10 this, under the specific language that's in the state statute,
- 11 it says that we would only have to go 100 feet on any type of
- 12 a public notice. We've always gone 250, and it's certainly we'd
- 13 want to consider taking up at this point, so we've kept the 250
- 14 in. It's going above what the state requires, I've indicated
- 15 that that's not a problem. It would complete any type of
- 16 procedure or hearings that we're going to have to have
- 17 pertaining to the periodic review or changes to like code.
- 18 The only thing that you're going to see after this, I
- 19 hope, is that we'll have a resolution which adopts a revised
- 20 file review order so I can put this neat little package together
- 21 and send it down to LCDC.
- 22 With that, I'd be happy to answer any questions that you
- 23 have concerning this issue.
- 24 MAYOR BUI: Any questions of staff?
- 25 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: I have a comment, Mr. Mayor.

- 1 MAYOR BUI: Yes.
- 2 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: And Scott, you and I have
- 3 talked about this previously, but I just wanted to mention in
- 4 front of the City Council --
- 5 MR. CLINE: I did (indiscernible). I apologize --
- 6 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Go ahead.
- 7 MR. CLINE: About the CAC?
- 8 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Yes.
- 9 MR. CLINE: I apologize to Ms. Burger-Kimber. This is
- 10 an issue. The DLCD that said I could probably just make the
- 11 changes into the code and not even have a hearing on it. I don't
- 12 think, you know, that's probably a real good idea. And we had
- 13 a meeting coming up with the CAC at the time, so I asked Karen
- 14 if it's okay if I put this on the agenda. And we did carry this
- 15 through the whole process. I forgot to put the minutes from
- 16 the CAC meeting on that, but we do have them for you tonight,
- 17 which is a part of the process.
- 18 Is that what you were going to cover?
- 19 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Yes. I just wanted to
- 20 reiterate that the Citizens Advisory Committee is both advisory
- 21 to the Planning Commission as well as the City Council equally,
- 22 so those recommendations would be, I think, nice for the Council
- 23 to look at. Thank you.
- 24 MAYOR BUI: If you can just hold there, Scott. Is there
- 25 any public testimony from proponents? Any further City Council

- 1 questions?
- 2 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Mr. Mayor, I'm sorry to jump in. For
- 3 the purpose of -- you mentioned on page 2 the Land Use Board
- 4 of Appeals and to substitute for the word "board," and then you
- 5 mentioned something else, and I just didn't catch that.
- 6 MR. CLINE: If you'll look on page 3 of your notice of
- 7 hearing? We left an "r" off of "hearings officer." It says
- 8 "hearings office." I'm sure --
- 9 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Hearings office. Right, yeah.
- 10 MR. CLINE: It should actually refer to land use
- 11 hearings officer. Now, we don't have a hearings officer for
- 12 land use decisions. This doesn't require us to make it do us,
- 13 but at least it will set us up --
- 14 COUNCILOR RIPMA: I understand.
- 15 MR. CLINE: -- (indiscernible).
- 16 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. Any further City Council
- 17 questions?
- 18 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: One question, Scott, on that same
- 19 page 3. There's an item B at the top. It says, "Notice shall
- 20 be sent to manufactured home park tenants." Does that ever
- 21 appear later? I was just losing that language.
- 22 MR. CLINE: That was actually taken out of the state
- 23 statute when we put that in.
- 24 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Okay, thank you.
- 25 MAYOR BUI: Any further questions? Any public

- 1 testimony from opponents to the change in this ordinance? Any
- 2 further City Council questions? I suppose there will be no
- 3 rebuttal. There will be no City Council questions based on the
- 4 rebuttal. Is there recommendation by staff?
- 5 MR. CLINE: Yes, there is. It's recommended that this
- 6 ordinance be approved with those two changes indicated on pages
- 7 2 and 3.
- 8 MAYOR BUI: Are there any council questions concerning
- 9 the recommendation? If not, the public hearing is now closed
- 10 and we will resume our role as City Council. I now will read
- 11 the ordinance for review by the Council for passage. It is ar
- 12 ordinance of the City of Troutdale approving amended --
- 13 amendments to intergovernmental agreements --
- 14 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: No. That's the wrong one.
- 15 MAYOR BUI: Oh.
- 16 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: May I read it for you?
- 17 MAYOR BUI: If you don't mind. People didn't know I was
- 18 blind.
- 19 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: With your permission I'll
- 20 read it. Ordinance of the City of Troutdale amending Chapter
- 21 16 of the Troutdale Development Code relating to notice
- 22 procedures to provide consistency with ORS 197.763(3) and as
- 23 recommended by the Department of Land Conservation and
- 24 Development.
- 25 MAYOR BUI: Any discussion on the motion -- I mean, on

- 1 the reading of --
- 2 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Mr. Mayor, I move that we adopt the
- 3 ordinance with the -- if I need to identify --
- 4 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Is the public hearing closed?
- 5 MAYOR BUI: I closed the public hearing, yes.
- 6 COUNCILOR RIPMA: -- with a minor change on page 2 at
- 7 16.020, second line of that paragraph, the word "Board" being
- 8 changed to "Land Use Board of Appeals," and on page 3, on 16.030
- 9 on the second line, that "hearings office" be changed to
- 10 "hearings officer." Otherwise, my motion is for the ordinance
- 11 as printed.
- 12 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: I'll second.
- MAYOR BUI: Motion's been moved and seconded to adopt
- 14 the ordinance. Any discussion on the motion? All in favor say
- 15 aye?
- 16 (Motion passes; unanimous aye votes.)
- 17 MAYOR BUI: Thank you, Scott. The next matter on the
- 18 agenda is a street tree appeal at 800 S.W. King's Byway. It
- 19 is my understanding -- I may look at staff for a moment on this
- 20 -- that some people want to take some trees down and are -- some
- 21 of these the maintenance director has dis-approved that, is that
- 22 correct?
- 23 MS. CHRISTIAN: That's correct. I think that Scott and
- 24 Val were going to -- I don't know how you want to conduct this,
- 25 but the gist of it is that under the street tree ordinance that

- 1 exists in the municipal code, street trees that exist within
- 2 the public right-of-way are actually owned by the City of
- 3 Troutdale. However, just like parking strips, we require
- 4 adjacent property owners -- and I have to say this, it's a
- 5 standard operating procedure throughout the state of Oregon
- 6 that the adjacent property owners are required to maintain those
- 7 right-of-ways or anything that -- like street trees.
- 8 And they made an application to cut two trees down. I
- 9 think that you have the backup material in terms of letters of
- 10 protest and denial. Valerie Lance, Park Superintendent is
- 11 here, and Scott Cline, her department head, is also present,
- 12 and I believe Mr. and Mrs. Rasmussen are here.
- MAYOR BUI: All right, why don't we open the hearing with
- 14 a presentation by our staff, Val or Scott.
- 15 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: (Indiscernible) real quick?.
- MR. JENNINGS: Mr. Mayor, before you get started, before
- 17 the City Council, let me give you the frame of reference so you
- 18 know what you need to decide in order to make a decision. If
- 19 you look at the ordinance that's been provided, it's on page
- 20 226 and 227 of the ordinances which were provided, and the
- 21 ordinance number is 12.32.090, beginning with the bottom
- 22 paragraph that says "appeal."
- In this case we're in the posture where the
- 24 superintendent and Ms. Lance have refused to issue a permit and
- 25 the Rasmussens must apply for a permit in order to remove the

- 1 trees. Ms. Lance has not issued a permit. Therefore, the City
- 2 Council, if you go quickly to the top of the next page, "City
- 3 Council shall proceed to hear and determine the appeal, calling
- 4 upon the superintendent to give his, " and we'll have to go to
- 5 gender neutral or her, "reasons therefor."
- The important issue is there's no specific standard by
- 7 which you folks are to judge whether it's a rational or
- 8 irrational decision. It's purely a subjective standard. You
- 9 don't have to look at how good the reasons are one way or the
- 10 other. You just have to make a decision whether it's
- 11 appropriate to remove these trees or not to remove the trees.
- 12 I want to make sure it's understood there's no criteria.
- Ms. Lance is required under this to give her reasons for
- 14 the removal along with Mr. Cline's reasons for removal, and then
- 15 the Rasmussens should come forward and talk about why they want
- 16 it removed. I didn't mean to interrupt. I apologize.
- 17 MAYOR BUI: No problem. If you'll begin please.
- 18 MR. CLINE: Thank you, Mayor Bui. Actually I think that
- 19 Pam and Jim have pretty much covered what I was going to say
- 20 as far as the issue of the trees go. And, again, this is not
- 21 directly to me as director since it does come directly to the
- 22 City Council from the superintendent. Val has looked at the
- 23 reasons, and she's given you a cover memo which briefly
- 24 summarizes those. She did provide that information to the
- 25 Rasmussens and explained to them why she was denying that.

- 1 And you might want to cover those reasons for the City
- 2 Council.
- 3 MAYOR BUI: If you will, please, Val.
- 4 MS. LANCE: Even though the ordinance doesn't
- 5 specifically set criteria for how to evaluate a tree, we do have
- 6 criteria on evaluating street trees. We use that criteria for
- 7 selecting street trees when new trees are planted to make sure
- 8 we don't have ongoing problems in the future. Some of those
- 9 things we look at are suitability of the tree specie and variety
- 10 to the street tree planting, how well the different varieties
- 11 are adapted to our weather and soil conditions here, how well
- 12 the trees have a record of growth in other areas and also this
- 13 area where we plant trees here. And we try to choose trees that
- 14 are disease and pest resistant and that won't cause problems
- 15 with the sidewalks and curbs and that type of things.
- These specific trees in this case are mature trees,
- 17 estimated at probably 30 years or more. They are appropriate
- 18 species; if we were going to choose the same trees today, they
- 19 would be within our street tree list that we've been using for
- 20 about eight years. And they're healthy trees, and they're the
- 21 kind of trees that we would hope that most homeowners would be
- 22 glad to have in their yard and maintain. And because the trees
- 23 are healthy and they have the right -- they're the correct
- 24 variety and they aren't having any problems to the public
- 25 facilities and the right of way, I could not, in good conscience,

- 1 allow the trees to be removed.
- 2 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. Anything further? Any
- 3 questions of staff?
- 4 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Mr. Mayor, I don't -- I know it was
- 5 in there somewhere. What kind of trees are they?
- 6 MS. LANCE: One is a pin oak and the other was a
- 7 (indiscernible) chestnut.
- 8 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Was there a particular action that was
- 9 being -- were the owners at this point under an order from the
- 10 City to do something, trim or --
- 11 MS. LANCE: No. The -- with our street tree ordinance
- 12 implementation we're not in a 100-percent proactive situation.
- 13 We use it as a reaction to people with comments, questions or
- 14 complaints. If a homeowner wants to do something with a tree,
- 15 they come in and fill out a permit. And in this case we received
- 16 a phone call inquiring that started the process.
- MR. CLINE: It's amazing how many people do comply. We
- 18 don't actively police, but if we do see something or some type
- 19 of an activity, then we will pursue it.
- 20 COUNCILOR RIPMA: In the past has the City ordered
- 21 anything on these trees?
- 22 MS. LANCE: Not these specific trees.
- 23 COUNCILOR RIPMA: That's all.
- 24 MAYOR BUI: Any further questions? Ken -- Paul.
- 25 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: I know this is pretty standard

- 1 throughout the state of Oregon, but I'm having a little bit of
- 2 a problem with planting street trees and then -- if the City
- 3 planting street trees at the city's discretion and then having
- 4 somebody else have to maintain them at their own expense. I
- 5 think that's -- that doesn't hit me quite the right way.
- 6 MR. CLINE: I would think, Mr. Thalhofer, the way that
- 7 that's treated is the same way that Pam has mentioned that we
- 8 require them to mow the parking strip or the right of way or
- 9 maintain the sidewalk. And if we have that there's damage to
- 10 the sidewalk, we've required in the past that that property
- 11 owner be responsible for replacing the sidewalk.
- 12 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: As a matter of information, does
- 13 it look like the trees may uproot, tear up the sidewalk, fall
- 14 on the house, or anything of this nature because of their age?
- 15 MR. CLINE: I don't think there's any indication that
- 16 that's a problem.
- MS. LANCE: Because of the trees are fairly mature,
- 18 their age, if they were prone to doing that, they would have
- 19 most likely already done that. There's a slight lifting of the
- 20 driveway near the oak. The oak is only a couple of feet away
- 21 from the driveway, but it's not to the extent that it's causing
- 22 any problem.
- 23 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. Any further questions of staff?
- 24 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Mr. Mayor, I understand that --
- 25 what it applies to and the history of it. I'm -- this is just

- 1 one more instance where we're mandating something we -- if we
- 2 asked the homeowner, "Do you want street trees in front of your
- 3 house, and then if you do, good, fine, then you take care of
- 4 them, "that would set better with me than just saying, "We're
- 5 going to plant street trees and you take care of them." In this
- 6 case, they apparently are a big nuisance to these folks.
- 7 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Could I ask a question?
- 8 MAYOR BUI: Yes, go ahead.
- 9 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: You mentioned these trees are
- 10 approximately 30 years old. Did the City of Troutdale plant
- 11 these trees?
- MS. LANCE: We do plant these trees. When they were
- 13 planted it was prior to the City having the street tree
- 14 ordinance.
- 15 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Were these trees planted
- 16 prior to the building of the house on which property they're
- 17 located?
- 18 MS. LANCE: You might be -- I'm not sure when the house
- 19 itself was built. The homeowners may have that detail.
- 20 MR. CLINE: The street tree ordinance does not draw the
- 21 distinction about whether we planted them. I mean, it's just
- 22 street trees in general and that's why the issue is before you
- 23 now.
- 24 COUNCILOR RIPMA: I quess I have one final thing. How
- 25 often does this come up that property owners -- I'm sorry, but

- 1 I'm new on the Council, and I just wondered. I've never seen
- 2 an appeal like this.
- MS. LANCE: This is the only one we've brought before
- 4 the Council since the ordinance was adopted.
- 5 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: And when was that ordinance
- 6 adopted?
- 7 MS. LANCE: Eight years ago, I think. Almost eight.
- 8 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: '86 -- '85.
- 9 MS. LANCE: Since '85.
- 10 MAYOR BUI: Any further questions of staff? Thank you.
- 11 I'd like to ask Mr. or Mrs. Rasmussen, or both of them, to come
- 12 up, please. If you'll state your name and address, please.
- MR. RASMUSSEN: Ron Rasmussen, R-a-s-m-u-s-s-e-n. 800
- 14 King's By-way.
- 15 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. go ahead and tell us your side
- 16 of it.
- 17 MR. RASMUSSEN: In listening to what transpired, I'd
- 18 like to start out by saying I have no idea what Ordinance 12.32
- 19 says. I was not given that ordinance. I was given a denial
- 20 letter which I'm sure you have in front of you from Valerie
- 21 citing that ordinance. I went down to City Hall to find out
- 22 what the regulations were, and I was given a document -- in fact,
- 23 it was the only document that they could find -- entitled
- 24 Ordinance No. 441-0, an ordinance adopting guidelines and
- 25 policies for city streets.

- 1 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: It's the same thing.
- 2 MR. RASMUSSEN: Well, it isn't -- I don't know where
- 3 12.32 comes from then.
- 4 MS. CHRISTIAN: That was codified --
- 5 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: They changed the number of
- 6 it.
- 7 MR. RASMUSSEN: Okay, well, whatever. Going through
- 8 this -- I mean, I don't realize -- this problem won't change
- 9 a thing, but going through this, it's very incomplete. It cites
- 10 a number of other ordinances that were not given to me, so I
- 11 have no way of knowing what I'm even supposed to say here today.
- However, with that, I can go through, if anybody's
- 13 interested, and to each one of those, but like I said, I don't
- 14 think it's going to change anything. I have lived at 800 King's
- 15 By-way since 1973. I also submitted a letter requesting
- 16 reconsideration. I hope you have a copy.
- MAYOR BUI: Yes, we do have that.
- 18 MR. RASMUSSEN: I will try not to reiterate the same
- 19 things. However, that house was built in 1972. I moved in
- 20 there in 1973. It had a beautiful front lawn. Since that
- 21 -- of course, that tree was just a small tree at that time, both
- 22 those trees. I don't know that they're 30 years old. They were
- 23 there when I moved there. They were small trees. Since then
- 24 they have become very large trees, a lot of leaves, a lot of
- 25 chestnuts. My yard is now totally ruined. I travel, as I

- 1 stated in there. I don't have the amount of time that maybe I
- 2 should have to maintain that. However, as this gentleman
- 3 pointed out, the City says "you maintain them." I have to go
- 4 out and sweep the street when the chestnuts fall, et cetera.
- 5 My wife has a bad back. She can't do it. It's totally
- 6 up to me, and I don't get it done. And as such, it has totally
- 7 ruined my yard.
- Now, during the same period of time, right across the
- 9 street there was seven acres of wooded land. The City has seen
- 10 fit during this period of time to give out permits to cut down
- 11 those trees and build new homes, and as such, new yards, I see
- 12 no difference in my situation to allow me to cut down two trees
- 13 that have destroyed my lawn, so I can put in a new lawn, than
- 14 allowing people across the street from me to do exactly that.
- I understand there are the rules, as the city attorney
- 16 stated, set out to make this decision. I just do not feel that
- 17 it's fair. I have paid taxes in this city for almost 20 years.
- 18 The people across the street haven't. They have advantages
- 19 that I'm being denied. And as such, I'm respectfully
- 20 requesting you grant my permit, at my expense and none to the
- 21 City, to cut down those trees.
- 22 Also, if those trees are cut down, they're exactly where
- 23 a sidewalk should be. There are sidewalks across the street.
- 24 There are sidewalks down the street. If the sidewalk was put
- 25 in, they would have to come out anyway. Now, the property

- 1 across -- kitty-corner across the street from me has all
- 2 beautiful fir trees, and if those two trees in my front yard
- 3 were fir trees I probably wouldn't have this problem, but they
- 4 are now. However, every single one of those trees in that lot
- 5 were allowed to be cut down.
- 6 Her denial, and she's probably absolutely right: trees
- 7 provide many benefits. I agree with that. That's great. But
- 8 they have destroyed my front yard. And that's the reason I want
- 9 them removed. Any questions?
- 10 MAYOR BUI: Any questions of Mr. Rasmussen.
- 11 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: I have a couple of questions.
- 12 MAYOR BUI: Yes, Marj.
- 13 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: In response to your letter that you
- 14 wrote, the one you wrote for the appeal, you stated that no
- 15 sidewalks, which to date have not occurred. It's not the City's
- 16 responsibility and that's up to the developer of the property.
- 17 That's why you have no sidewalks.
- 18 MR. RASMUSSEN: I don't know.
- 19 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: One of the trees that you mentioned
- 20 is a pin oak and they don't lose their leaves until the spring.
- 21 Pin oaks lose their leaves in the spring, not in the fall. I
- 22 went over and looked at both of them, and I believe they could
- 23 be trimmed and look fine. I trim the leaves in my -- not leaves
- 24 -- the trees in my yard, shrubs in my yard, and I have a bad
- 25 back. I don't have any real problem with them being trimmed

- 1 according to the ordinance.
- 2 MAYOR BUI: Did you want to respond to that?
- 3 MR. RASMUSSEN: Yes, heartily. I don't know what a pin
- 4 oak is, but both those trees lose their leaves in the fall.
- 5 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: Pin oak. Pin.
- 6 MR. RASMUSSEN: Pin oak? I don't know what that is. I
- 7 don't know the species. One I'm told is an oak and the other
- 8 is a chestnut. I know the chestnut is a problem.
- 9 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Pin is a variety of --
- MR. RASMUSSEN: But they do lose their leaves in the fall
- 11 all on the driveway. It's about to ruin my driveway. And if
- 12 that happens, it's going to be my expense, not the expense of
- 13 the City.
- 14 Also, I have been -- received notice from the City to
- 15 trim those trees because they overhang the highway, and I've
- 16 complied with that. Has to be over 11 feet, and et cetera. So
- 17 --
- 18 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: Well, you have to -- if their
- 19 sight's obscured, so people can see on the streets so they have
- 20 some kind of vision.
- 21 MR. RASMUSSEN: Oh, I understand that --
- 22 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: They're your trees, so that's why
- 23 they have to be cut.
- 24 MR. RASMUSSEN: And I complied with that. But that
- 25 didn't help my lawn.

- 1 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Mr. Rasmussen, have you
- 2 talked to your neighbors about your problem with your trees?
- 3 MR. RASMUSSEN: No, they don't have a problem. My
- 4 neighbors across the street have been allowed to cut their
- 5 trees.
- 6 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Right. I just wondered if
- 7 you talked to them about how they felt about the trees being
- 8 gone or if they liked them or if they understood what your
- 9 problem was.
- MR. RASMUSSEN: Well, my next-door neighbor agrees with
- 11 me, Gil Robb, but, again, he doesn't have a problem.
- 12 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: I drove through the
- 13 neighborhood, and I was particularly impressed with the fact
- 14 that it's one of few neighborhoods that has mature trees in it.
- 15 From all the other neighborhoods in the area. Do you think --
- 16 do you think that in removing these trees, if you were given
- 17 permission to remove these trees that you might replace them
- 18 for something else that might be appropriate for the area?
- 19 MR. RASMUSSEN: Oh, yeah, I don't have any problem with
- 20 that. Remove the trees, put in my new lawn and put trees in
- 21 that aren't going to ruin it.
- 22 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: What kind of trees do you
- 23 think would be appropriate.
- 24 MR. RASMUSSEN: I don't see where the fir trees are
- 25 ruining it. In response to the question about whether these

- 1 would blow over or not, I've got five grown trees along the side
- 2 of my house. The middle tree just blew over into the road and
- 3 I had to go out and cut it. The fact that these trees haven't
- 4 fallen down to this point doesn't mean they're not going to.
- 5 Again, I'd like to have a sidewalk.
- 6 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: It's expensive. Do you feel
- 7 that the trees -- do you feel the trees in your neighborhood
- 8 -- the other trees, for instance, across the street where all
- 9 the fir trees are and different areas around your house where
- 10 there are a lot of mature trees, do you feel that those trees
- 11 are an asset to your neighborhood?
- MR. RASMUSSEN: Well, I like the looks of them.
- 13 However, the lot across the street, they were allowed to cut
- 14 down every single one of them.
- 15 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: That was for the new
- 16 development?
- 17 MR. RASMUSSEN: The new homes built on the northwest
- 18 corner of 7th and King's By-way. And a lawn.
- 19 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: That's a sad -- that's a sad
- 20 situation. I wish that we could preserve more trees. I've
- 21 been a little distressed by that removal -- the wanton removal
- 22 of trees and not taking the extra effort to try to preserve a
- 23 few trees around houses. I think it would be nice if we could
- 24 do that.
- 25 MR. RASMUSSEN: I still have a number of trees around

- 1 my house.
- 2 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: You've been a member of our
- 3 community for quite a number of years, Mr. Rasmussen, and your
- 4 wife. You had a lot of concerns here about things that have
- 5 changed in your neighborhood, about the growth, and the amount
- 6 of time it takes to travel, a lot of concerns that you have about
- 7 the changes that we've had in our community. Do you feel that
- 8 -- maybe this isn't a fair assumption, but -- and maybe you won't
- 9 like me for saying this -- but do you suppose because of the
- 10 pressure of everything else that's gone on in the neighborhood
- 11 and the new houses coming in and the traffic congestion and all
- 12 these other issues have maybe caused you to direct your anger
- 13 to the trees?
- MR. RASMUSSEN: No. The trees have ruined my front
- 15 yard.
- 16 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Okay, all right. I had to
- 17 ask. I have no further questions.
- 18 MAYOR BUI: Anything further of Mr. Rasmussen.
- 19 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Mr. Mayor. I will say at the outset
- 20 I'm sympathetic to your plight, and anyone who's gone to all
- 21 the trouble playing by the rules and bringing this appeal I'm
- 22 sympathetic. I just want you to know that most citizens in my
- 23 experience in Troutdale like trees, like our tree ordinance and
- 24 like our requirements that -- at least this is my feeling, that
- 25 developers plant trees. They do beautify the neighborhoods,

- 1 and I hope you've been dealt with courteously by the staff.
- 2 In reviewing the situation I think the staff could come
- 3 to no other conclusion: these trees didn't present the kind
- 4 of hazard that would allow them to grant your request
- 5 automatically, and I'm sorry you had to bring this appeal, but
- 6 I'm hoping we'll deal with you fairly, and I am sympathetic to
- 7 your request. That's all I have, Mr. Mayor.
- 8 MAYOR BUI: Any further questions? Staff?
- 9 MS. LANCE: This is a comment. I too am sympathetic
- 10 towards the fact that the yard has not been kept up to the kind
- 11 of standards that the homeowner would like to see, and we did
- 12 offer the trimming that could reduce the leaf issue by probably
- 13 25 percent and do have information that we make available to
- 14 homeowners, if we're asked, that spelled out different seed
- 15 mixes for shade and different cultural practices in the yards
- 16 to make the yardwork a little easier and have a better
- 17 maintenance standard with less work. We apply those to our park
- 18 areas so we've had -- we try to stay up to date on the secrets
- 19 that are available for turf. We have shady areas, too, so we
- 20 would be happy to share that knowledge with you.
- 21 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Could I ask staff?
- 22 MAYOR BUI: Yes.
- 23 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Valerie, would that lessen the
- 24 problem of chestnuts ruining the ground -- the lawn?
- 25 MS. LANCE: If a person wanted to get very technical

- 1 there are some seed inhibitors that can be sprayed on the tree
- 2 that would reduce that. That would add one more step to the
- 3 maintenance program for his trees.
- 4 COUNCILOR RIPMA: And as far as the program you were
- 5 mentioning I just want to be clear: You weren't actually
- 6 offering to have the city do the trimming.
- 7 MS. LANCE: No, we'd provide technical assistance as far
- 8 as giving information on how to --
- 9 COUNCILOR RIPMA: How to do it?
- 10 MS. LANCE: Mm-hmm.
- 11 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Would you like to respond to
- 12 that, Mr. Rasmussen?
- 13 MR. RASMUSSEN: Right. It isn't just the leaves. It's
- 14 the chestnuts. It's the roots of the oak tree that are going
- 15 to ruin my driveway. I mean, there's no doubt it's going to
- 16 ruin my driveway. She says it's about to now. It isn't just
- 17 the leaves. I can cut half the branches off and cut down the
- 18 leaves. The chestnuts are still going to fall; I'm still going
- 19 to be traveling. You know, it isn't going to correct the
- 20 situation.
- 21 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Can I ask a member of the staff.
- 22 Valerie, is that, in fact, your opinion that this tree will ruin
- 23 his driveway ultimately?
- MS. LANCE: I noted a slight uplifting of the concrete
- 25 now. Because the tree is fairly mature it would be unlikely

- 1 that there would be further uplifting and if so, it would do
- 2 so over a long period of time rather than short period.
- 3 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: I think you mentioned that
- 4 before. But if it's started already, okay, you say it's not
- 5 going to be --
- 6 MS. LANCE: Oaks are very slow growing trees so they
- 7 don't move very quickly. In situa -- the tree is only a couple
- 8 feet away from the driveway. And in some of our park areas and
- 9 other sidewalk areas when we had an uplifting problem where the
- 10 concrete was being uplifted, we had instances where the sidewalk
- 11 was removed and interlocking paving stones or grates were put
- 12 in the sidewalk to accommodate the tree.
- 13 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: If Mr. Rasmussen were to build his
- 14 own sidewalk, what then would be the position of the trees, those
- 15 two trees? I mean, would it inhibit the building of the
- 16 sidewalk?
- MS. LANCE: Well, we rarely have existing trees to deal
- 18 with in the city. One example where we did was right out here
- 19 on the -- right out here on, I think, 3rd Street. There was
- 20 an existing walnut tree, and when that sidewalk was put in, that
- 21 sidewalk was configured around the tree, and had a street grate
- 22 installed to accommodate the bend in the trunk. And in
- 23 sidewalks in the city, there's usually a curb, a strip of
- 24 planting area and a sidewalk. In some instances there's a curb
- 25 and a sidewalk and then the planting area is incorporated as

- 1 part of the yard. But there's different designs to accommodate
- 2 a situation. When there are mature trees involved we would look
- 3 at alternative designs to try to accommodate the trees.
- 4 MR. CLINE: I think another example of that is the
- 5 sidewalk along Sweetbriar Meadows. Because of what we learned
- 6 from our (indiscernible) over Christmas there was a great deal
- 7 of concern placed in where we put the sidewalk. You've got
- 8 sidewalks that do veer around some trees to preserve those. We
- 9 would also allow the option -- if it's to save some of these
- 10 trees, we're not going to cut them down to put in a sidewalk.
- 11 It would either be placed against the curb or it could be behind
- 12 the curb depending upon the location of those trees.
- COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Mr. Rasmussen, it sounds to
- 14 me like your biggest problem is with the chestnut tree.
- 15 MR. RASMUSSEN: Well, yeah, until the oak tree ruined
- 16 my driveway.
- 17 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Okay. What is the
- 18 possibility of cutting just the chestnut -- or requesting a
- 19 permit to cut the chestnut tree only and leaving the oak tree
- 20 and replacing the -- that tree with another tree.
- 21 MR. RASMUSSEN: That would be an alternative.
- 22 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: On the -- Valerie, is it
- 23 appropriate in a condition with an oak tree like that when it's
- 24 next to a driveway, to cut that root?
- 25 MS. LANCE: That's one cultural practice that is

- 1 acceptable, and there's now what's called a bio barrier. It's
- 2 a fabric that has some chemical imbedded in it, herbicide that
- 3 inhibits the roots to enter into the sidewalk area. The City
- 4 has some of that in its stock to use in situations that come
- 5 up like this. We make that available to the homeowner at our
- 6 cost.
- 7 MAYOR BUI: Is there anything further, Mr. Rasmussen?
- 8 MR. RASMUSSEN: Only the sidewalk situation, the
- 9 sidewalk across the street goes right to the curb, the sidewalk
- 10 down the street goes right to the curb. I think it would be
- 11 a detriment to the looks of this city if you put one sidewalk
- 12 a different -- every block a different type of a sidewalk. They
- 13 put the same sidewalk in front of my house that's in front of
- 14 the rest of the houses on that street. It's right up to the
- 15 curb, and the trees would have to come out.
- 16 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: We're not putting any sidewalk --
- MAYOR BUI: Is there anything more? Is the Council
- 18 prepared to deal with this matter? I'll accept any kind of a
- 19 motion.
- 20 COUNCILOR RIPMA: All right. Is that how we're going
- 21 to do it? Move to either grant the permit or --
- 22 MAYOR BUI: I think it's --
- 23 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: Approve or deny the appeal.
- 24 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Yes, I would move, Mr. Mayor, to --
- 25 well, grant the appeal -- I guess we're in the appeal, and grant

- 1 Mr. Rasmussen's permit.
- 2 MAYOR BUI: Okay, there's a motion to grant Mr.
- 3 Rasmussen's appeal and his permit. Is there a second to that
- 4 motion.
- 5 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: I'll second it.
- 6 MAYOR BUI: There is a second to the motion.
- 7 COUNCILOR RIPMA: And if I may --
- 8 MAYOR BUI: Any discussion on the motion?
- 9 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Yes, for the purpose of the motion.
- 10 I am second to none in this city. I've embarrassed myself
- 11 sitting where Mr. Rasmussen is talking on behalf of trees. I'm
- 12 a nut about trees. I've probably planted -- planted 40 trees
- 13 last year on my own property. But this ordinance that we have,
- 14 which I think is widely supported by our city and is good for
- 15 the city, needs to be administered in a temperate fashion. This
- 16 is the first gentleman to come up. He has a legitimate
- 17 complaint. I think we should promote trees for people who want
- 18 them, but here we are faced with a very unusual situation where
- 19 somebody doesn't want his mature trees. I consider it very
- 20 unusual. But it's come up, and I think if we're going to have
- 21 our ordinance be popular and be effective, we need to temper
- 22 -- temper and bend it once in a while and allow this kind of
- 23 thing. So that's why I favor the motion.
- 24 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. Any further discussion?
- 25 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: I agree with David? I'm very

- 1 prone to like trees and to dislike seeing them cut. But at the
- 2 same time I don't believe that the City has the right to insist
- 3 that those trees remain if Mr. Rasmussen wishes to cut them down
- 4 and replace them. You did say you'd replace them --
- 5 MR. RASMUSSEN: Yes.
- 6 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: -- with other appropriate trees.
- 7 I just don't see that we can do this. So I seconded the motion.
- 8 MAYOR BUI: Any further discussion on the motion.
- 9 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Yes, Mr. Mayor. I too love
- 10 trees, and I am trying to put myself in Mr. Rasmussen's position,
- 11 and I think if I had the chestnut tree out there which showered
- 12 the yard with chestnuts once a year, a large amount of chestnuts
- 13 and a large amount of leaves, and the trees were in the way of
- 14 the sidewalk, perhaps you'd like to build someday, because it's
- 15 going to be your responsibility to build the sidewalk. And if
- 16 it's ruining your driveway, which we've been told by the Public
- 17 Works --not Public Works but by the Community Development
- 18 Department that they have ways to mitigate the growth of the
- 19 root that it would do perhaps no more damage to your damage
- 20 still. It appears that you've -- you have suffered for some
- 21 time now, and since you're willing to replace those trees with
- 22 some other variety of trees which will not do so much damage
- 23 to your property and also allow you to build your sidewalk and
- 24 have a driveway that will work and be there and not be destroyed,
- 25 I find myself in a position of agreeing that you should be

- 1 allowed to take down those two trees. And I say that very
- 2 reluctantly.
- 3 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: I'd like to call for the
- 4 question.
- 5 MAYOR BUI: The question has been called for on the
- 6 motion, allowing Mr. Rasmussen to remove these two trees from
- 7 his yard. All in favor say aye.
- 8 (Motion passed; unanimous aye)
- 9 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Be gentle, Mr. Rasmussen.
- 10 MR. RASMUSSEN: I'd just like to say I don't hate trees,
- 11 (indiscernible).
- 12 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Two for one. Two for one.
- * * *
- MAYOR BUI: Now, we're going move to the final item on
- 15 our agenda, the status report on the negotiating team of the
- 16 Wastewater Management.
- 17 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Mr. Mayor, is it permissible to ask
- 18 for a break in a few minutes.
- 19 MAYOR BUI: This is the last matter, but, yes, we could
- 20 have a break.
- 21 COUNCILOR RIPMA: I was thinking it might be lengthy.
- 22 If I'm the only one I'll withdraw that.
- 23 MR. JENNINGS: It may not be as lengthy as it might be.
- 24 There's been a break in the negotiations.
- MAYOR BUI: All right, let's move ahead with it.

- 1 MR. JENNINGS: If I might, Mr. Mayor, briefly, if you
- 2 remember at the last City Council meeting we were charged with
- 3 the responsibility of continuing to work on -- at least to bring
- 4 before the City Council based upon a simplified commercial lease
- 5 being established and an agreement to comply with the terms of
- 6 an industrial pretreatment ordinance.
- 7 Since that time, the negotiating team has met one more
- 8 time. Jim Galloway's spending innumerable hours, or more,
- 9 working with the people from Wastewater Management. There has
- 10 been -- there have been some technical issues to be resolved.
- 11 The form and substance of a lease has been circulated to the
- 12 members of the negotiating team. They have seen the form of
- 13 the lease. Mr. Zupancic and I have agreed to the form of the
- 14 commercial lease. There remain some technical issues to be
- 15 resolved.
- The technical issues appear to have been resolved this
- 17 evening with an establishment of a mechanism -- I'm not going
- 18 to get into the complicated measuring of how much flow and over
- 19 what period of time it's going to be purchased. The essence
- 20 of the lease is that we would recommend to City Council that
- 21 the lease be approved subject to -- and I'm speaking now for
- 22 my self. The negotiating team has their own position -- I would
- 23 recommend approval of the lease subject to the compliance with
- 24 an industrial pretreatment ordinance and subject to a few minor
- 25 issues being worked out that Mr. Zupancic and I really

- 1 anticipate no problems.
- I know that Jim Galloway is still working on the
- 3 pretreatment ordinance with Bob Holman and the issues of
- 4 compliance there. I'll let him speak in regard to that.
- 5 MS. CHRISTIAN: (Indiscernible)?
- 6 MR. JENNINGS: I understand the -- the permit letter
- 7 which mirrors or at least discusses the parameters of the
- 8 industrial pretreatment ordinance.
- 9 MAYOR BUI: Do you have any comments to make, Mr.
- 10 Galloway.
- MR. GALLOWAY: I don't think at this time. I think that
- 12 some of the Wastewater --
- MR. JENNINGS: Jim Zupancic who is here this evening
- 14 representing -- attorney representing Wastewater Management.
- 15 Before Mr. Zupancic says anything, I think it would be valuable
- 16 to have the input from Paul and Bruce who have been embroiled
- 17 in this for a while.
- MR. ZUPANCIC: Jim, it may be difficult because there's
- 19 a few fairly recent things that have unfortunately that Paul
- 20 and Bruce, as members of the negotiating team, have not been
- 21 privy to. I think it might be helpful to hear things maybe
- 22 before they're asked to --
- 23 MR. JENNINGS: Okay, that's fine. Why don't we have --
- 24 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Mr. Zupancic, please give us a
- 25 brief resume of what's been going on.

- 1 MAYOR BUI: Please come forward and introduce yourself,
- 2 sir.
- 3 MR. ZUPANCIC: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm Jim
- 4 Zupancic. I've appeared before you previously. I'm with the
- 5 law firm of Davis Wright Tremaine in Portland, and as Mr.
- 6 Jennings indicates, we hope to bring you solutions tonight as
- 7 opposed to more problems. We hope that we have resolved our
- 8 issues, our dispute by way of settlement, which I think is music
- 9 to all of our ears, given the history of this relationship.
- 10 1984, for those who don't know the history, this company
- 11 and the City began as cooperative allies. We hope that this
- 12 is a turning point and we can reestablish that relationship.
- Tonight we are very hopeful that you can take action on
- 14 the lease and discharge agreement. It's very important, given
- 15 the fact that this company is now in Chapter 11. We have been
- 16 restricted in our flow of discharge filtrate to a point where
- 17 the company is not able to operate. Judge Sullivan has granted
- 18 two extensions for us either to accept or reject the existing
- 19 lease. And to be quite candid, his patience is running about
- 20 as thin as some of the rest of yours in trying to get this issue
- 21 resolved.
- 22 Mr. Jennings and I have reached agreement on a lease.
- 23 With respect to the discharge agreement Mr. Galloway and I,
- 24 tonight, agreed as to the last technical issue. And I must say,
- 25 of course, they did not intend -- Mr. Galloway did not intend

- 1 to bind the negotiating team, so my apologies to Mr. Thalhofer
- 2 and Mr. Thompson, this will be the first time you've heard of
- 3 it as well.
- The premise is basically that in 1984 this company
- 5 negotiated for ERU's and paid for ERU's based upon a strength
- 6 of discharge that would be equal to approximately 40 percent
- 7 of an equivalent residential unit. We've agreed to a formula,
- 8 and rather than to bore you with the details, which is yes, there
- 9 would be an adjustment in the SDC charges to Wastewater
- 10 Management for an additional 18 ERU's that would permit the
- 11 discharge of 68,250 gallons per week, which is the necessary
- 12 discharge volume; there is a formula which would require payment
- 13 of additional SDC's if minimum BOD levels are not met --
- 14 biological oxygen demand -- levels are not met within the next
- 15 year.
- 16 Following that ascertainment of level, the company will
- 17 be given an additional year to pay those SDC charges in the event
- 18 that those SDC charges arise.
- 19 Perhaps the best definition of a settlement is a solution
- 20 to which both parties are equally disappointed. The company
- 21 wants to continue in operations. We think that it's in the
- 22 benefit of the city that the company continues in operations.
- 23 I can tell you that behind me, at their own volition, there are
- 24 a number of individuals who, given the opportunity, would like
- 25 to come forward and tell you that the very existence of their

- 1 companies depends on the continued operation of Wastewater
- 2 Management.
- I also have tonight Mr. Duane Lee from Duane Lee
- 4 Engineering that would testify as to the effectiveness of this
- 5 system. We can present that testimony if you would like to hear
- 6 it. But I would defer to you, Mr. Mayor, with respect to the
- 7 proceedings tonight. We believe we have a settlement. In
- 8 deference to the people who have come, I would like to give them
- 9 an opportunity to speak to you, if you would wish that, and also,
- 10 Mr. Lee, if he'd like to hear that as well. So I would defer
- 11 to you.
- 12 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. This is listed as an information
- 13 matter in our packet.
- 14 MR. JENNINGS: It is. The information in that it is
- 15 listed as a specific action matter. At the request of Mr.
- 16 Zupancic it's being upgraded to an action matter because, as
- 17 I understand it, his client is on the -- ropes is too colorful
- 18 a term --
- 19 MAYOR BUI: Sure.
- 20 MR. JENNINGS: They need a larger amount of discharge
- 21 in order to continue to operate. If the matter can be spelled
- 22 out, if the Council is comfortable considering a lease in its
- 23 skeleton form tonight then that's what we're asking them to do.
- 24 If the Council wants the final document, then that works a
- 25 hardship on his client, if I understand Mr. Zupancic, and he

- 1 can tell us better. Notwithstanding what Judge Sullivan might
- 2 think, it works hardship on his client.
- 3 MR. ZUPANCIC: Judge Sullivan is somewhat persuasive,
- 4 given the fact that he has jurisdiction in this Chapter $11.\,\,\,\,\,$ But
- 5 there's no question from an operating standpoint this company
- 6 has been brought to its knees, and it's not able to serve its
- 7 clientele, and as a result there are many other companies that
- 8 are being damaged as a result of this, and we think that we've
- 9 now reached agreement with the City. We are very happy with
- 10 the fact that we have, and we'd like to get on with it now and
- 11 ask for approval of the lease.
- MAYOR BUI: What I'd like to do is just ask each of the
- 13 council people if they'd like to hear from the witnesses that
- 14 are here tonight. It is not a witness-type public hearing
- 15 matter. Karen?
- 16 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Putting me on the spot here?
- 17 All those lovely people out there?
- 18 MAYOR BUI: One by one.
- 19 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: I wouldn't mind hearing from
- 20 a couple of representative people if they can keep it brief,
- 21 one or two minutes apiece, if that would be all right?
- 22 MAYOR BUI: Paul.
- 23 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Yes, I'd like to hear from them
- 24 briefly as to how this would impact them and their business.
- 25 MAYOR BUI: Bruce.

- 1 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Not necessarily. I understand
- 2 that it impacts a lot of people.
- MAYOR BUI: Okay, Dave.
- 4 COUNCILOR RIPMA: A question perhaps Mr. Zupancic can
- 5 answer and clarify in my mind if I want to hear from the witnesses
- 6 -- is it all right if I ask him?
- 7 MAYOR BUI: Go ahead.
- 8 COUNCILOR RIPMA: The existence of all these other
- 9 witnesses' companies is dependent, you say, on Wastewater
- 10 Management. Am I to understand that that means we're the
- 11 dumping ground, and there's no other place? Is that what that
- 12 means? They have no other place to dump, in a nutshell?
- 13 MR. ZUPANCIC: In a nutshell, the propriety process
- 14 that's employed by Wastewater Management is able to digest
- 15 certain wastes that other facilities are not able to digest,
- 16 consequently this is one of the only places that some of these
- 17 clients can discharge their waste. This is not to suggest that
- 18 it's a dumping ground, because there's a very
- 19 -- there's a critical path and a process that must be undergone,
- 20 and I think Mr. Lee would be prepared to testify and explain
- 21 the process to you much better than I.
- 22 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Well, without getting into all of
- 23 that, and maybe you've answered this before -- the Council
- 24 forgive me -- but you mean that Portland or West Linn or some
- 25 other -- there's no other place that they can dump? And we can

- 1 hear -- witnesses will be coming to tell us that they have to
- 2 dump here in Troutdale?
- 3 MR. ZUPANCIC: There is no other place that uses the same
- 4 process, the same Purifax process, therefore there's different
- 5 types of wastes that can be accepted here in Troutdale.
- 6 COUNCILOR RIPMA: How many of these witnesses are
- 7 Troutdale businesses?
- 8 MR. ZUPANCIC: I'm not familiar with all of them, sir.
- 9 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Are any of them?
- 10 MR. ZUPANCIC: Yes.
- 11 COUNCILOR RIPMA: I might be interested in hearing from
- 12 a Troutdale business.
- 13 MAYOR BUI: Okay, thank you. Marj.
- 14 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: It's part of the process is
- 15 listening to the public, so I'll go along with it. But you said
- 16 this was going to be short.
- 17 MAYOR BUI: I didn't say that.
- 18 COUNCILOR RIPMA: It doesn't sound short.
- 19 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: Yeah, it doesn't sound short.
- 20 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Would I be considered rude if
- 21 I kept time and waved my hand when they were done -- when their
- 22 time was up? Would that be acceptable?
- 23 COUNCILOR RIPMA: What's the time limit?
- 24 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Two minutes.
- 25 MAYOR BUI: I'll use the clock here.

- 1 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: May I point out, before we do this,
- 2 the reason that I don't particularly want to hear from the
- 3 witnesses is I know that they're here to indicate that they need
- 4 this facility in their business. You know, we're all cognizant
- 5 of that, I hope. If we're not we wouldn't be in this situation.
- 6 We're cognizant of that. So listening to the witnesses
- 7 essentially is putting pressure on the City to accept the lease,
- 8 and if Mr. Zupancic is correct and if Mr. Jennings is correct,
- 9 there shouldn't be that much problem with the approval of the
- 10 lease.
- 11 MR. ZUPANCIC: We should point out that the negotiating
- 12 committee has had the benefit of hearing --
- 13 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Yes.
- 14 MR. ZUPANCIC: -- at least from one witness at a
- 15 negotiating session, who I thought presented the case fairly
- 16 eloquently for all of the people. As a matter of fact, he even
- 17 -- I believe, Don, you even listed a lot of the people who were
- 18 affected by this when we talked before, didn't you?
- 19 It would be some 15 businesses, I believe, were mentioned
- 20 then. So, not to shortcut the process, but the negotiating
- 21 committee has heard from representatives of the businesses.
- 22 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Right. And I would suggest that
- 23 we're going to hear from representative of the businesses that
- 24 we limit it to one, one, because I assume that they're all in
- 25 the same position.

- 1 MR. ZUPANCIC: Mr. Mayor, if I might suggest, I don't
- 2 know how many businesses we have here tonight represented, but
- 3 I would be happy to take the heat and suggest to them that maybe
- 4 a couple of representatives be appointed to speak so that we
- 5 save your time and we at least get the issues presented to you
- 6 that you want to hear.
- 7 MAYOR BUI: Is that fair?
- 8 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: I think that's very
- 9 acceptable.
- 10 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Mr. Mayor, I'd like to hear from
- 11 all of them who came here tonight to speak to this council. And
- 12 in most other hearings or meetings of this nature that we have
- 13 we do let everyone speak, albeit it briefly, and I think that's
- 14 what I would like to see tonight, two minutes or something like
- 15 that.
- 16 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Mr. Mayor, I'm sorry, I disagree
- 17 with Paul. I think if we're going to hear from them all at one
- 18 time then we should set this hearing at some other time, because
- 19 there was nothing on the agenda which would have provided for
- 20 that type of testimony. This was just supposed to be a status
- 21 report. If we're going to upgrade it, I don't think we should
- 22 have a full-blown hearing.
- 23 MAYOR BUI: Let's quickly, then, just poll the council
- 24 to see who wants what, why or when. Karen, where do you stand.
- 25 You mentioned two?

- 1 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: I'd like to hear from some
- 2 select people for two minutes apiece.
- 3 MAYOR BUI: Paul, you want to hear them all?
- 4 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: In order to not to further delay
- 5 this, I will accede to that.
- 6 MAYOR BUI: Oh, you will accede to it?
- 7 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Accede to hearing from two or
- 8 three people.
- 9 MAYOR BUI: Okay.
- 10 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: So we don't have to delay to
- 11 another time.
- 12 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: All right, okay. Would you select
- 13 two people for us, at least one from Troutdale.
- 14 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: Can we take a break while they're
- 15 making their decision.
- 16 MAYOR BUI: Pardon?
- 17 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: Can we take a break while they're
- 18 making a decision?
- 19 MAYOR BUI: Yeah, we'll take a quick break while you're
- 20 making a decision here. We'll take five minutes, in fact.
- 21 (Recess)
- 22 MAYOR BUI: Are we prepared to move forward?
- 23 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Mr. Mayor, before we proceed I just
- 24 want a clarification. Are we supposed to be voting on something
- 25 tonight?

- 1 MAYOR BUI: That's what the request is.
- 2 COUNCILOR RIPMA: I point out that we've received no
- 3 report. Some of us are new on the Council, although I've
- 4 followed this closely as a citizen. Our negotiating team
- 5 hasn't read it. I can't see how in the world we can consider
- 6 voting on even the outlines of it at this time.
- 7 I don't know if that would affect whether the people want
- 8 to proceed.
- 9 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: My question is only on the
- 10 informational, from the agenda, and whether --
- 11 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: This was my initial concern --
- 12 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: From the way this is going tonight
- 13 it seems more like it's a public meeting, and I think really
- 14 we need -- you know, we need more of the public informed about
- 15 what's going on than what's going on tonight.
- 16 MR. ZUPANCIC: Mr. Mayor, may I reply?
- 17 MAYOR BUI: Mr. Zupancic.
- MR. ZUPANCIC: The negotiating team and I agreed that
- 19 this matter would originally be heard on the 12th. We
- 20 understand that that wasn't possible due to the installation
- 21 of the new council, and when we put it over -- we agreed to have
- 22 it put over to the 26th, it was our understanding that the matter
- 23 was to be set for action and for public hearing, and for that
- 24 purpose we have provided documents quite some time ago so that
- 25 they could be reviewed.

- 1 Unfortunately, and I understand your dilemma, but for
- 2 us it has significant impact. And Mr. Ripma and I were just
- 3 speaking. It's our intent to make sure that everyone on this
- 4 council is adequately educated as to the issues. But we would
- 5 very much like to be able to proceed tonight, if at all possible,
- 6 to get an action.
- 7 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Mr. Mayor. Were the documents that
- 8 you supplied some time ago, did they contain the proposed
- 9 settlement that we're talking about tonight?
- 10 MR. ZUPANCIC: Yes, they did, Mr. Ripma, with the one
- 11 technical change that we've just agreed to having to do with
- 12 the payment of the SDC's, which was relatively minor compared
- 13 to the entire settlement.
- 14 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Is there any reason why we didn't
- 15 receive the written materials then on this?
- 16 MR. JENNINGS: We may have a disagreement between Mr.
- 17 Zupancic and I as to the status of the negotiations. The
- 18 proposed lease was circulated to the negotiating committee
- 19 about a week ago for their review. The negotiating committee
- 20 was, tonight, to make a report. I viewed the things that were
- 21 left unagreed upon as more fundamental, maybe, than Mr. Zupancic
- 22 did.
- 23 If there is an error, it is mine in not having this thing
- 24 on for final decision. Frankly, as of last Friday I did not
- 25 feel that we had an agreement that I could bring to City Council.

- 1 But I will say that everybody has worked very, very hard in the
- 2 last few days to put this together. If there's any way to lessen
- 3 the hardship on Mr. Zupancic's client while a formal report is
- 4 prepared, I suggest we at least consider doing that, which would
- 5 be an increase in the amount of discharge pending approval of
- 6 the final lease agreement, when we have the operating terms,
- 7 really, right now for governing the discharge between now and
- 8 the next council meeting when a full settlement agreement can
- 9 be given. If that's acceptable to Mr. Zupancic, if we can agree
- 10 to increase the discharge to the 68,000 gallons subject to
- 11 approval by the Council at the next meeting of the final lease
- 12 document and final discharge document -- Jim, I know you have
- 13 a problem with Judge Sullivan, but I have a feeling we're only
- 14 talking about the better part of two and a half weeks.
- 15 MR. ZUPANCIC: When would the next day be?
- MAYOR BUI: Second Tuesday of February.
- 17 MR. JENNINGS: February 9th, and I think you still have
- 18 time.
- 19 MR. ZUPANCIC: We -- I tell you, I appreciate that, and
- 20 I don't mean to be laying blame on anybody here. I think we
- 21 can work with that as long as we can get the discharge up to
- 22 the level we request during that time. I think we may have until
- 23 a couple days after that.
- 24 MR. JENNINGS: Well, I don't want to short-circuit any
- 25 testimony tonight. I don't think it's inappropriate to hear

- 1 from maybe a couple of selected people. But what I would
- 2 suggest is that final consideration of the lease agreement be
- 3 put on the February 9th docket with the responsibility of staff
- 4 to have the lease agreement and the discharge agreement to City
- 5 Council with their packets the Thursday before, and for final
- 6 vote to be at that point in time, and final recommendation from
- 7 the two members of the negotiating committee at that time who
- 8 have much more -- who have a different bias and approach and
- 9 feeling about this because they've been involved in it for five
- 10 months.
- 11 Frankly, Dave's position is well taken, but I want to
- 12 try and extend whatever we can to Mr. Zupancic's client, give
- 13 them an opportunity in the next two weeks to stay on their feet
- 14 until such time that there is a final decision by City Council.
- 15 Again, remember, that the negotiating team is charged with the
- 16 responsibility of bringing a lease to City Council, not
- 17 finalizing a lease, but bringing a lease to City Council saying,
- 18 "This is the best we can do. City Council, do you approve of
- 19 it or not approve of it?"
- 20 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Mr. Mayor, isn't it true that the
- 21 issue of whether they can increase their discharge is the heart
- 22 of the matter? I mean, I've been following this from the
- 23 audience for a long time. I mean, that is the heart of the whole
- 24 issue. If we grant them that, we've granted them everything.
- 25 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Mr. Mayor, no, that's not true,

- 1 because that would be a temporary grant, and it hasn't been the
- 2 heart of the matter. Originally the heart of the matter was
- 3 we were going to shut them down completely without regard to
- 4 flow. And then that's come up later. I'm a member of the
- 5 negotiating committee. So any extension of flow to 68,000
- 6 gallons a week until this matter is resolved on February 9th
- 7 would be a temporary grant. If this Council so deemed that they
- 8 didn't want to enter into the lease agreement at that time on
- 9 February 9th, then that could be dropped immediately. A
- 10 temporary grant of 68,000 gallons of flow per week.
- 11 MAYOR BUI: Basically what you're saying it could be
- 12 worded in the motion?
- 13 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Yeah.
- 14 MR. JENNINGS: Paul, but I think you would agree that
- 15 over the last two months it has become the focus.
- 16 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: It is the focal point.
- 17 MR. JENNINGS: And I agree with you. The funny thing
- 18 about this lease negotiation, Dave, is that the focus has
- 19 shifted over time. I think that's clear.
- 20 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Right, and it has --
- MR. JENNINGS: And it has, in the last few weeks, in my
- 22 opinion. We spent a lot of time on the issue of -- well, I think
- 23 there are two issues. There's discharge and there's the
- 24 capability of meeting the industrial pretreatment standards.
- 25 Those two remain the large issues.

- 1 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Paul, I'm just thinking, look, if it
- 2 isn't the heart of the matter, why not just leave things the
- 3 way they are until we're done negotiating. Either it is or it
- 4 isn't the heart of the matter. And I say if it isn't the heart
- 5 of the matter, and by granting it we're granting them what they
- 6 want, then let's just leave things as they are until we as
- 7 Council can have a full report and a chance to consider this.
- 8 We're being asked to cave in on the most important negotiating
- 9 point we've got.
- 10 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: That's not true.
- 11 COUNCILOR RIPMA: It seems to me.
- 12 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: David, I don't see this as
- 13 caving in. I see this as giving them a grace period and taking
- 14 the recommendations of the staff and the negotiating committee.
- 15 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Our -- as I understand it, the limits
- 16 that are imposed by -- that exist today are based on earlier
- 17 leases, protection of our plan, protection of our city
- 18 investment. I mean, there's reasons for them. They're not
- 19 just flighty arbitrary numbers. And the reason we haven't
- 20 granted an increase up till now is because we haven't been able
- 21 to figure out a way to make it fair to the citizens of Troutdale.
- 22 That's it in a nutshell, I think.
- Well, I just know you don't cave in on the main -- well,
- 24 I don't care if you call it the main point or not. If it's so
- 25 important we shouldn't give in on it, and if it isn't so

- 1 important, then let's just leave it the way it is. That's the
- 2 way I feel about it.
- 3 MR. ZUPANCIC: Mr. Ripma, let me put this, perhaps, in
- 4 a frame of reference that you and I will understand as attorneys.
- 5 Occasionally there's a need for provisional process, getting
- 6 some sort of injunctive relief pending the outcome of a dispute.
- 7 I would liken this to very much like provisional process.
- What we're asking for is for things to be maintained,
- 9 if you will, in the status quo before such time as this company
- 10 was restricted in its flow. We have worked things out and have
- 11 the most amicable relationship with Public Works that this
- 12 company has had probably in eight years. It's not perfect, but
- 13 things are moving along now so that handshakes and promises
- 14 truly mean something.
- The last thing we want to do is to foul the city sewer
- 16 system. And I believe that -- Mr. Holman can speak to this issue
- 17 and also other representatives of the economy -- they would be
- 18 willing to work with Public Works over the next couple of weeks
- 19 pending this so that we wouldn't foul the city system.
- 20 So it's very important that this process be allowed to
- 21 operate again, not only for the company's benefit, but for those
- 22 that you're going to hear from tonight. This company continues
- 23 to lose a major amount of money every day that it has to stay
- 24 closed down.
- 25 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Well, as you know, Mr. Zupancic,

- 1 oftentimes the interim temporary solution, temporary
- 2 restraining order in court or something else, ends up being the
- 3 key thing in the whole trial, for that matter. In other words,
- 4 it cuts both ways. There's -- the granting of the additional
- 5 flow here, as I understand it, in the final lease, it's going
- 6 to be dependent upon you meeting requirements that are not in
- 7 place today. They're based on a -- I assume monitoring systems.
- 8 I'm just guessing now. They're based on things that are unknown
- 9 right now as to how we're going to have any -- we don't have
- 10 mechanisms in place to allow you to increase the flow with full
- 11 protection the way the lease will.
- 12 I don't mind -- I want to know all the facts. But at
- 13 this point I feel that I'm being asked to cave in on the flow
- 14 issue, which I have heard discussed here for months now. You
- 15 know, we say it's temporary until the next meeting. Well, I
- 16 don't -- you know, is that flow going to choke back off in two
- 17 weeks? I really -- in other words, I -- I object. I object
- 18 to granting that request based on no report, no written report,
- 19 no knowledge. Even our negotiating team hasn't had a chance
- 20 to report to us. I feel it's not wise for the City to do that.
- 21 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Do you want a report from the
- 22 negotiating committee?
- 23 COUNCILOR RIPMA: I'd like a written report -- regular
- 24 written report.
- 25 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Written report. We've been

- 1 working on this for umpteen months, and I would like to say that
- 2 I hope we don't just start from scratch again because we have
- 3 a couple new council members. And I, as one of the members of
- 4 the negotiating committee, am prepared to give you a report,
- 5 if you would like a report. If Bruce doesn't want to, that's
- 6 his prerogative.
- 7 But to just -- in my opinion, when we've been pursuing
- 8 this thing for so long, going back to last spring, I think, maybe
- 9 even before that, and I think I know quite a bit about this.
- 10 I've been to many meetings discussing this. I can understand,
- 11 and I'm not going to lay blame any place, but I can understand
- 12 why we don't want to approve the lease at this time; that we
- 13 want to present it as an agenda item for action. I can
- 14 understand that. I have no problem with that. I think it's
- 15 too bad that it came up this way, but I can understand why we
- 16 can't do it.
- But I can't understand why we can't give this company
- 18 a couple of weeks of 68,000 gallons flow. And, sure, it's
- 19 critical at this point. It isn't what started this whole thing,
- 20 but it's critical now. It's one of the factors that's developed
- 21 as being critical, and probably will be most critical at this
- 22 point.
- 23 So giving them two, maybe two and a half weeks of flow
- 24 at 68,000 gallons unless the Public Works Director can say that
- 25 that would somehow foul our plant, then I see nothing wrong with

- 1 that. If, in fact, when we meet on February 9th, with witnesses
- 2 and so on, have the hearing, and this Council decides, no, they
- 3 don't want to enter into this lease, then it's all over with.
- 4 There won't be any more flow. It would be shut off, period. So
- 5 it's not like it will continue on and on and on.
- There is finality to this thing because, for one, I think
- 7 this Council is tired of dealing with it, and I, as a negotiating
- 8 committee member, am tired of dealing with it and would like
- 9 to get on with it. I would like to see these people have a
- 10 chance, at least for the next two and a half weeks, to do business
- 11 because of the situation they're in.
- 12 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Let me respond, as long as Paul
- 13 made a slight report, let me also.
- 14 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: I haven't made my full report.
- 15 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: I understand that. I'm not going
- 16 to make my full one either. One of the things that I just --
- 17 let me point out first of all, as far as Mr. Galloway and the
- 18 sewage treatment plant, I don't think they can make any
- 19 guarantees that if they increase the gallonage to 68,000 that
- 20 it won't harm the plant.
- 21 MR. GALLOWAY: I don't think a guarantee was made any
- 22 way.
- 23 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Right. That's my point. No
- 24 guarantees either way.
- 25 As far as increasing the flow to 68,000 gallons, if

- 1 that's such a critical thing, why has it taken all this long
- 2 in order to arrive at the last-minute negotiations to
- 3 essentially get an extension or to get the lease signed tonight?
- 4 There's a lot of time that's passed between the time when we
- 5 first started negotiating this thing and right now. If it was
- 6 such a critical thing you would think that the negotiations
- 7 would have gone a lot faster than that. So therefore, I don't
- 8 believe it's that critical.
- 9 MR. ZUPANCIC: May I respond to that, sir?
- 10 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Sure.
- 11 MR. ZUPANCIC: I think that the negotiations have taken
- 12 time because all of the members of the negotiating team have
- 13 been very careful to make sure that they understood all of the
- 14 facts and the historical perspective and acting in the best
- 15 interest of the parties they represent. And those things take
- 16 time. And what you have--
- 17 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: I understand it, Mr. Zupancic, and
- 18 what -- I guess I'm agreeing with David, that we need additional
- 19 time also. All right? We need additional time, at least until
- 20 the next council meeting when we can have time to study the
- 21 issue.
- 22 Essentially what we're arguing right now is whether
- 23 we're going to allow you to increase the gallonage to 68,000
- 24 a week in the period between now and the next council meeting
- 25 which is two weeks away. Is that essentially what we're talking

- 1 about?
- 2 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: I think so.
- 3 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Whether we do that temporarily or
- 4 not. I think we're all agreed that we won't act upon the lease
- 5 until the next council meeting.
- 6 So that's the point, are we going to allow you to increase
- 7 your flow to 68,000 gallons a week for the next two weeks.
- 8 MR. ZUPANCIC: And to clarify, this would be allowing
- 9 the company to go back partially to the allowable discharge that
- 10 was occurring in 1992. So we talked about increasing the
- 11 discharge to 68,000 gallons a week. Number one, it's only
- 12 temporary, and Mr. Thompson, Mr. Ripma, it really isn't the
- 13 core. The core of the issue is a lease and a discharge agreement
- 14 that are much more complex than this.
- 15 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Well, you know, I disagree with you
- 16 slightly, because the lease -- I don't think we have a whole
- 17 lot of problem with the terms of the real estate lease. All
- 18 right? What we have problems with are the ERU's that the
- 19 company originally purchased, what that gives them a right to
- 20 discharge, what they've done in the past, and what the last lease
- 21 limited the company to. Is that essentially correct?
- 22 MR. ZUPANCIC: Under the existing lease the city has the
- 23 prerogative to grant discharge to whatever level it wishes
- 24 without imposition of additional ERU's or SDC's. That's what
- 25 the city did. The temporary allocation that's being proposed

- 1 here, would be that which was permitted under the existing
- 2 lease.
- 3 And to be honest, I appreciate the good-faith way in
- 4 which the City has negotiated. It was not easy for me to reach
- 5 an agreement tonight with Mr. Galloway because it's potentially
- 6 going to cost the company a great deal of money. But we did
- 7 that in good faith in response to what we believe has been the
- 8 City's good-faith negotiation. We would ask you, in the form
- 9 of a plea, to allow us that discharge of up to 68,000 gallons,
- 10 with the understanding that if Mr. Galloway tells us to turn
- 11 off the flow because we're fouling the system, we would do that
- 12 immediately.
- 13 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: That was going to be my request,
- 14 yes.
- 15 MR. ZUPANCIC: The City would be protected in any event,
- 16 so that the City would not suffer harm.
- 17 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Under those conditions I have no
- 18 objection to increasing that flow to 68,000 gallons a week.
- 19 MAYOR BUI: Are you prepared to make a motion?
- 20 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Yeah. If Mr. Galloway can shut it
- 21 off at any time that he sees any harm coming to the plant, at
- 22 least, you know, until the next council meeting when we can
- 23 discuss the lease issue at length, and I would make that into
- 24 a motion, yes.
- 25 MAYOR BUI: Okay, there's a motion to allow Wastewater

- 1 Management to increase its capacity to 68,000 dollars --
- 2 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Gallons.
- 3 MAYOR BUI: I mean, gallons.
- 4 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Let's go with the dollars.
- 5 MAYOR BUI: 68,000 gallons and until there's a
- 6 recommendation from Mr. Galloway that it is interfering with
- 7 our city's sewage treatment process. Is there a second to that
- 8 motion?
- 9 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: I second that motion.
- 10 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Until the next meeting.
- 11 February 9th is our --
- 12 MAYOR BUI: February 9th, correct.
- 13 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Am I to understand that at that point
- 14 the flow allowance reverts?
- 15 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: It's a total temporary flow
- 16 allowance only until February 9th, and at that time it would
- 17 either have to be agreed to permanently in a lease or disagreed
- 18 to, whichever.
- 19 COUNCILOR RIPMA: I'm just saying, it would
- 20 automatically revert back down --
- 21 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Automatically revert back.
- 22 MR. JENNINGS: And the only reason it doesn't terminate
- 23 is because of the Chapter 11.
- COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Right, otherwise, they wouldn't be
- 25 doing anything.

- 1 COUNCILOR RIPMA: All right --
- 2 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: There's a motion on the
- 3 floor.
- 4 COUNCILOR RIPMA: I'm discussing that motion, and if I
- 5 may, Mr. Mayor?
- 6 MAYOR BUI: Please.
- 7 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Was the public informed that we'd be
- 8 voting on this tonight?
- 9 MS. CHRISTIAN: Only informational. that was --
- 10 COUNCILOR RIPMA: So, I just point out, Paul --
- 11 particularly to Paul, I appreciate what you've done, and I don't
- 12 mean to denigrate the efforts of the negotiating team, but we
- 13 are being asked to vote when we weren't told -- the public wasn't
- 14 told. There might be serious objections to this by the
- 15 neighbors of this plant that are not here tonight because they
- 16 were not informed about it. I still strenuously object to
- 17 voting on this thing, even for two weeks. This is not a proper
- 18 process. We're granting something that I think has a potential
- 19 for harm to the City, without notice to the public. And they've
- 20 arranged a parade of witnesses to support this without even
- 21 notifying the public of a -- and giving them a chance to oppose
- 22 it. Really, I object to this.
- 23 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Mr. Mayor.
- 24 COUNCILOR RIPMA: It's very unwise.
- 25 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: I think that there was some --

- 1 there were some people who thought this was going to be the final
- 2 hearing and thought it was going to be set up that way. And
- 3 I think that through -- I don't know what happened, but it became
- 4 informational only, and I don't know how that happened or
- 5 whether that's correct or not. I'm not going to get into that.
- 6 But I think that's what Wastewater Management had in mind, at
- 7 least, that this was going to be a final meeting. We talked
- 8 about this before that the 12th was out and that this was going
- 9 to be the time.
- 10 And now all we're doing, we're not -- we're not approving
- 11 the lease at this time at this point, which I think we need to
- 12 have the full public hearing on. This has not materialized the
- 13 way it was anticipated. And I think we need to have the report.
- 14 I think the negotiating committee needs to give their reports.
- 15 And I think we need to do the whole thing in a proper manner.
- 16 So I agree with you on that.
- But I also think that, based upon the city attorney's
- 18 recommendation, that they be allowed 68,000 gallons of flow per
- 19 week until February 9th when we can consider this in full
- 20 (indiscernible), and from hearing the evidence I've seen and
- 21 heard on the negotiating committee, I don't think at this point
- 22 it will necessarily foul up the plant. And we also have the
- 23 provision that the Public Works Director can shut off the valve
- 24 if he deems that the plant is in peril.
- 25 And having said that, I'd like to vote on this.

Tho

- 1 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: I'd like to call for the question.
- 2 MAYOR BUI: The question's being called for on the
- 3 motion.
- 4 (Motion passed: aye: Burger-Kimber, Thalhofer,
- 5 MAYOR BUI: It's three to two. Motion passes.
- 6 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Mr. Mayor, would we like to
- 7 have the people that have been selected to come forward to speak
- 8 speak? I think that you've made an effort to come here and I'd
- 9 like to give you the opportunity to speak in a limited--
- 10 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Maybe they should -- well, I know
- 11 it's an imposition, but maybe they should come and speak at the
- 12 hearing, but I know that would be very inconvenient for you,
- 13 so I'll leave it up to the attorney.
- 14 MAYOR BUI: It was my intent, at least in talking with
- 15 Mr. Zupancic at intermission time, that I would at least allow
- 16 all these other people, because they were not going to be
- 17 testifying tonight and to get up and tell us their names, the
- 18 businesses that they represent and where they're from. Am I
- 19 correct?
- 20 MR. ZUPANCIC: That would be fine. At this time, Mr.
- 21 Gibbons and Mr. Mock have been nominated to speak on their
- 22 behalf. I've asked them each to keep their comments very brief.
- 23 If they wish to come back at a public hearing, that would be
- 24 fine, in my view. Why don't we do it that way if that's
- 25 permissible with you, Mr. Chairman.

- 1 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: What's happened is we have passed
- 2 the motion to allow the 68,000 gallons. If my understanding's
- 3 correct, that's basically what we were going to have the
- 4 testimony about.
- 5 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: I think these people just
- 6 want to tell a little bit about themselves, and I don't see any
- 7 objection to that.
- 8 MAYOR BUI: Okay.
- 9 COUNCILOR RIPMA: As long as we're allowed to ask
- 10 questions.
- 11 MAYOR BUI: Favor of the council: Marj?
- 12 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: Doesn't make any difference to me.
- 13 MAYOR BUI: Huh?
- 14 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: Doesn't make any difference to me.
- 15 MAYOR BUI: Dave?
- 16 COUNCILOR RIPMA: As long as we're allowed to ask
- 17 questions.
- 18 MAYOR BUI: Two. Paul.
- 19 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: One question for every one minute.
- 20 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: No.
- 21 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Yes.
- 22 MAYOR BUI: Karen?
- 23 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: I'd like them, of course.
- 24 MR. ZUPANCIC: Will I get a chance to rehabilitate my
- 25 witnesses? After you cross-examine them.

- 1 COUNCILOR RIPMA: I'm not going to cross-examine them.
- 2 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Be kind, David.
- 3 COUNCILOR RIPMA: As long as -- you were -- you may not
- 4 believe this, but I'm not necessarily opposed to your 68,000
- 5 gallons. I'm opposed to doing it without a public hearing.
- 6 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: We've covered it.
- 7 COUNCILOR RIPMA: I'm not necessarily opposed.
- 8 MR. ZUPANCIC: I'd like to ask Mr. Mock to come forward
- 9 and to offer brief salient testimony, please.
- 10 MR. MOCK: I'm Albert Mock.
- 11 MAYOR BUI: Your name and address, please?
- MR. MOCK: I beg your pardon?
- MAYOR BUI: Your name and address, please.
- 14 MR. MOCK: I'm Albert Mock, and I live on 1360 S.W. 257.
- MAYOR BUI: Okay, thank you.
- 16 MR. MOCK: I own Goodman Sanitation Service for 35 years
- 17 in Troutdale. I do approximately 40,000 gallons of septic that
- 18 I've been able to complete since Wastewater has been semi-shut
- 19 down. I have no idea where the other stuff is going. I service
- 20 Brightwood, Estacada, Clackamas. I don't go any further west
- 21 than Clackamas, basically, so I wouldn't tell you how many
- 22 people are depending on this sort of thing. I do not know what
- 23 people are doing with the material when their toilets quit
- 24 functioning and I can't go.
- There's a very definite need, I would tell you, and

- 1 there's probably 15, not in this area -- there's only two of
- 2 us here -- that need this service. It was zoned as a community
- 3 service, and it's very definitely needed, and there is no other
- 4 place to put it except the city of Portland which doesn't want
- 5 it.
- 6 COUNCILOR RIPMA: May I ask a question of Mr. Mock, Mr.
- 7 Mayor?
- 8 MAYOR BUI: Oh, God, I knew it.
- 9 COUNCILOR RIPMA: How long -- just how long have you had
- 10 your business?
- 11 MR. MOCK: How long did I what?
- 12 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Goodman Sanitation, how long have you
- 13 had it?
- MR. MOCK: How long did I just get through telling you?
- 15 COUNCILOR RIPMA: I'm sorry, I didn't hear.
- MR. MOCK: Thirty-five years.
- 17 COUNCILOR RIPMA: What did you do before we had the
- 18 plant.
- 19 MR. MOCK: I built the plant.
- 20 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Well, I'm saying, though, the plant
- 21 hasn't been around for 35 years. What did you do?
- 22 MR. MOCK: Well, I brought it down to Troutdale and put
- 23 it in the wastewater plant: 3,000 gallons a day I was allowed.
- 24 UNIDENTIFIED: Without pretreatment?
- 25 MR. MOCK: For years.

- 1 COUNCILOR RIPMA: All right, and why is it that this
- 2 plant is so important to you?
- 3 MR. MOCK: I'm generating 40,000 gallons of sludge a
- 4 month that I can't get rid of except city of Portland; they don't
- 5 want it.
- 6 COUNCILOR RIPMA: You mean they won't accept it?
- 7 MR. MOCK: Some they will, some they won't. Takes you
- 8 an hour and a half to get through all the tests. I get through
- 9 all of them because I basically do septic.
- 10 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Troutdale and Portland are the only
- 11 two choices?
- 12 MR. MOCK: In this part of the county, yes.
- 13 COUNCILOR RIPMA: All right, thank you.
- MR. MOCK: Basically East County.
- 15 MAYOR BUI: Any other questions? Thank you, Mr. Mock.
- 16 COUNCILOR SCHMUNK: Thank you.
- MR. MOCK: You're welcome.
- 18 MR. GIBBONS: I'm Don Gibbons, and I own Columbia
- 19 Laboratories, which is in Corbett. It's a food testing lab.
- 20 Before I speak to my own issue, I've had quite a bit of experience
- 21 with this general situation here. I've met quite a few of the
- 22 people involved. Wastewater's customers. What I discovered
- 23 is that there's three areas that really have difficulty.
- Domestic waste is not so bad. But grease traps,
- 25 portable toilets and my situation. I assure you there is no

- 1 place else to dump. I've checked Vancouver, Salem, Eugene,
- 2 Clackamas County, Washington County, Portland, Hood River,
- 3 Camas. None of them will take it. One of the problems is that
- 4 even though my septic is cleaner than any domestic septic you'd
- 5 ever find, I fall into the industrial category, and by
- 6 regulations, the typical sewage treatment plant can't take what
- 7 I have. And believe me, I've covered the waterfront. When
- 8 this came up last spring, members of the City Council assured
- 9 me that there were other sources, other places to go.
- 10 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Would you tell us, first, where
- 11 your waste comes from. That's important.
- MR. GIBBONS: Okay, I'm a laboratory, and it has a septic
- 13 tank. And all of that waste from the laboratory, all of the
- 14 water from the laboratory is pumped into a truck, a holding tank,
- 15 as it were, and it's hauled away.
- 16 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: And your laboratory is food
- 17 testing, right?
- 18 MR. GIBBONS: Right, food testing lab.
- 19 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: So this is the -- the sewage that
- 20 results after the tests are made?
- 21 MR. GIBBONS: Right. Now, I operate under a DEQ permit.
- 22 Every truck load is tested before it's moved, so we know exactly
- 23 what's in it.
- 24 But that's not the important part. If my laboratory
- 25 were in the city of Troutdale everything would go down the sewer.

- 1 Not a problem. All of DEQ's laboratory wastes go down the
- 2 sewer. It's just I don't happen to be on the sewer line. And
- 3 so rather than put it in the ground, I haul it down here. But
- 4 I really assure you there is no other place that I know of within
- 5 a 100-mile radius where I can dump this stuff. And right now
- 6 I've got a 4,000 gallon tank load that's full tonight and I've
- 7 got to dump it by noon tomorrow or my business is shut down.
- And I'm not alone. All the guys that rent the
- 9 porta-potties, portable toilets, the guys that clean grease
- 10 traps from restaurants, gas station people, numerous kinds of
- 11 businesses that rely on this. And that's not just the guys who
- 12 are trucking in here, because there are businesses all over.
- 13 Vancouver has no place to dump.
- Now, this doesn't mean we're dumping all the garbage on
- 15 you. What it means is that you are lucky enough to have a
- 16 facility that can deal with this kind of thing, that can pretreat
- 17 the septic so that it's acceptable to the normal sewage system,
- 18 a disposal plant. You're not being dumped on. You've got a
- 19 good viable business, or the possibility of a good viable
- 20 business if they're allowed to have the gallonage to be able
- 21 to make a profit. Other questions?
- 22 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Mr. Mayor?
- 23 MAYOR BUI: Go ahead.
- 24 COUNCILOR RIPMA: How many plants like this are coming
- 25 on line, then? How many other cities are building plants like

- 1 this?
- 2 MR. GIBBONS: To my knowledge, none.
- 3 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Well, I -- tell us how many other
- 4 cities are so lucky as Troutdale in this respect.
- 5 MR. LEE: In this region, none.
- 6 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Why not?
- 7 MR. LEE: The option to this date has been that there has
- 8 been a facility in Troutdale, one. There hasn't been anyone
- 9 else to invest in this, and there isn't enough volume,
- 10 typically, in the region to justify more than one plant.
- 11 Secondly, most of the plants are not currently set up
- 12 to accept the type of waste this gentleman just referred to.
- 13 They can handle septic tank wastes on a limited scale. Some
- 14 -- the only two that I'm aware of regionally that I'm aware of
- 15 now are the Durham facility in Washington County and the City
- 16 of Portland's Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment
- 17 facilities.
- 18 MR. GIBBONS: Except Durham won't take anything from
- 19 outside their county now.
- 20 MR. LEE: That's news to me. I didn't know that.
- 21 MR. GIBBONS: That's a new policy.
- 22 MAYOR BUI: As a matter of record, would you tell us your
- 23 name, please.
- 24 MR. LEE: Yes, excuse me, I'm Duane Lee of Lee
- 25 Engineering, 1300 John Adams Street, Oregon City.

- COUNCILOR RIPMA: Yes, Mr. Lee, then, why -- there's
- 2 obviously a market for this discharge for people to use these
- 3 facilities. I have to admit, I feel as though Troutdale is
- 4 getting the honor of being dumped on in this case. I can't see
- 5 any further way to put it. All you people who are coming here
- 6 are desperate for a place to dump, and you've got Troutdale and
- 7 you don't want to lose it, but I'm wondering what's in it for
- 8 us. In other words, why, if there's such a market out there,
- 9 there isn't anybody else setting up a plant like this? I'm
- 10 frankly puzzled.
- 11 MR. LEE: I need to preface my comments here with some
- 12 little background if I may answer it, since I was going to be
- 13 the most speaker anyway. I'm an independent consulting
- 14 engineer. I have a staff of 15 people, and we work primarily
- 15 in the water and wastewater issues of small and medium sized
- 16 communities. I typically do not serve the large political
- 17 jurisdiction, basically based on my size and preference.
- 18 My experience in wastewater treatment goes back to a
- 19 period beginning about 1968 when I was an employee of a rather
- 20 large consulting engineering firm in the northwest. While a
- 21 member of that firm I designed the expansion to the Gresham
- 22 wastewater treatment plant; I expanded that system from primary
- 23 to secondary and added additional flow capacity, up to six
- 24 million gallons a day. Since then that has been expanded again
- 25 by others.

- 1 We also assisted the City of Troutdale in expansion of
- 2 its treatment plant back in the period of the late '70's and
- 3 early '80's. I was the designing engineer of record for your
- 4 facility. I've also designed a number of other facilities
- 5 throughout the Pacific Northwest.
- 6 Since then, as our own group -- and prior to then I had
- 7 worked for a large firm that had designed water -- water and
- 8 sewage facilities for many communities, including the Columbia
- 9 Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant. I personally was
- 10 involved in many of the design aspects of that plant during its
- 11 expansion of the early 1980's.
- 12 COUNCILOR RIPMA: I accept your expertise.
- MR. LEE: Based on that, my experience with
- 14 sludge-handling facilities began in the late '70's in Boise
- 15 where this Purifax system was first introduced in the Pacific
- 16 Northwest, to my knowledge, in which the City of Boise was
- 17 looking to expand its plant economically. Purifax brought its
- 18 system into town. We tried it on a pilot scale. We took
- 19 samples. And here's a sample since 1980 that's been in my file
- 20 all this time. It's still very stable and sterile; smells a
- 21 little bit like burnt newspaper.
- The additional investigations that I made on behalf of
- 23 the Purifax system included a tour of Calispel, Montana, to
- 24 Calgary, Canada, to Ventura, California, and to the West Point
- 25 Treatment Plant in Seattle from which these units were derived.

- 1 They were there initially. And they were used there to treat
- 2 the supernatant from their digesters in order to reduce the BOD
- 3 in order that it could be reverted back to the plant; there was
- 4 a capacity problem. One way to increase capacity was to
- 5 economize the existing treatment scheme at West Point.
- Once they began a major expansion of West Point they
- 7 abandoned these units and Goodman Sanitation at that time bought
- 8 those and brought them to Troutdale. He -- Goodman Sanitation
- 9 at that time attempted initially to install these units in
- 10 Gresham, and Gresham was approached, to handle their sludge
- 11 processing. At that point in time, which was the early '80's,
- 12 they had just constructed a heat-treatment system to treat
- 13 sludges. And the heat-treatment system was creating a major
- 14 odor problem in the Gresham area. To solve that, however,
- 15 Gresham, rather than using these units, opted to carry or sludge
- 16 by truck their sludges to Hood River, which I understand they
- 17 still do.
- 18 Treating sludges is not the most popular thing in the
- 19 world. It's not an easy thing. And frequently designers tend
- 20 to overlook this option. Handling septic tank waste is a
- 21 difficult thing. Plants have to be outfitted with some form
- 22 of pretreatment in order to get that process into their main
- 23 stream so that it can be biologically reduced as the other wastes
- 24 in your stream do.
- 25 The reasons primarily why these units have not had wide

- 1 acceptance is their cost, both in terms of capital investment
- 2 and operation and maintenance expenses. One of the unique
- 3 things about the system in Troutdale is that the capital
- 4 investment that was made was rather minor because they had
- 5 already been depreciated at West Point and were sold for
- 6 salvage. And so the capital investment became very minor
- 7 compared to normal operations of this type. That's why
- 8 Troutdale is unique in respect to other processes to handle
- 9 septic tank waste.
- 10 They can be handled in a normal treatment flow, but it
- 11 is difficult and expensive.
- 12 COUNCILOR RIPMA: So, Mr. Lee, then, the reason other
- 13 cities in the metro area here don't take this has nothing to
- 14 do -- or is not because it's unsavory or they don't want it or
- 15 something else but because they didn't have access to a couple
- 16 of cheap units being salvaged; is that what you're --
- 17 MR. LEE: That's part of --
- 18 COUNCILOR RIPMA: That's your testimony?
- 19 MR. LEE: That's part of the issue. No, I'm not
- 20 testifying. I'm trying to give you independent professional
- 21 opinion about these units. I'm here at the request of Mr.
- 22 Zupancic. I asked him to try to find additional experts in the
- 23 field. He assures me that I'm here tonight to represent the
- 24 profession in an unbiased way. I understand that Wastewater
- 25 Management is paying my time, but I'm here to answer any

- 1 questions freely that you may ask. I'm not here to testify on
- 2 behalf of anything.
- 3 COUNCILOR RIPMA: So other cities --
- 4 MR. LEE: There are other factors with regard to the
- 5 ability of this unit -- these units -- to handle waste which
- 6 treatment plants simply will not accept. So the option really
- 7 then becomes -- and most of these things are economic options.
- 8 I think that's fair to say. The decisions about how you do it
- 9 and what you do are in large part directed by economic factors.
- 10 These wastes can be disposed of, for example, at Arlington.
- 11 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Oh, they can?
- 12 MR. LEE: Yes.
- 13 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Oh, I see. So all these folks would
- 14 have another -- obviously they'd have to go all the way to
- 15 Arlington --
- 16 MR. LEE: That's correct.
- 17 COUNCILOR RIPMA: -- but they could do it.
- MR. LEE: Which would add to the cost of their providing
- 19 services to this community and to others.
- 20 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Mm-hmm. But they can't in Gresham,
- 21 though? The only other place I've heard is Portland.
- MR. LEE: That's my understanding.
- 23 COUNCILOR RIPMA: Is that true, Mr. Gibbons?
- 24 MR. GIBBONS: Yes, that's true for domestic waste.
- 25 COUNCILOR RIPMA: And Portland's harder? They give you

- 1 a hard time or something.
- 2 MR. GIBBONS: Well, I can't take it to Portland.
- 3 COUNCILOR RIPMA: You can't even go to Portland.
- 4 MR. GIBBONS: I can't go anywhere. Except Wastewater
- 5 Management.
- 6 COUNCILOR RIPMA: This is it.
- 7 MR. LEE: Or Arlington.
- 8 MR. GIBBONS: Yeah, which would be prohibitive. I
- 9 might as well close the doors.
- 10 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Let me point out that Mr. Gibbons'
- 11 testimony is one of the reasons why we're still negotiating and
- 12 still trying to come to an agreement with Wastewater Management,
- 13 because we realize there is a real need out there. And we don't
- 14 want to shut the door on those people, but at the same time,
- 15 we want to safeguard the citizens of Troutdale and the sewage
- 16 treatment plant.
- 17 COUNCILOR RIPMA: All right, thanks. That's all I
- 18 have.
- 19 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Did (indiscernible) statement,
- 20 Paul?
- 21 COUNCILOR THALHOFER: Yes, it is.
- 22 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Do we have any other
- 23 representatives that would like to speak or introduce
- 24 themselves?
- 25 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: I'm sorry, are there any other

- 1 representatives?
- 2 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: Right, I thought we were
- 3 going to find out who's here?
- 4 MR. ZUPANCIC: Mr. Mayor, if I may call upon the
- 5 individuals who are here to please identify themselves and the
- 6 companies they represent.
- 7 MAYOR BUI: Please do, yes.
- 8 MR. WATSON: My name's Mike Watson. I own Tuffy
- 9 Portland Toilet Company (ph). We are not a Troutdale-based
- 10 company but do provide service to the outlying areas. Along
- 11 with some of the other gentlemen here that provide a septic tank
- 12 service, I don't believe that all of Troutdale's on the sewer
- 13 yet, so some of that waste ends up in this treatment plant, so
- 14 there is a service.
- The other thing is that we do frequent this facility when
- 16 it's up and running on a daily basis. We purchase fuel at your
- 17 fuel stations. I have a mechanic here and a chemical
- 18 distributor. These people, I don't know, if we go away, their
- 19 businesses too. If you're interested in protecting the
- 20 financial end of it, I am a small part of it.
- 21 COUNCILOR THOMPSON: Mr. Mayor, would you like these
- 22 people to come forward or speak from their seats?
- MAYOR BUI: I think they can just speak from their seat,
- 24 if that's all right with council.
- 25 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: That's fine.

- 1 MAYOR BUI: Next.
- MR. RAY: Gerald Ray (ph). I work with K&W Septic from
- 3 Mt. Hood. We have 5500 to 7500 people up here on septic tanks
- 4 only who've used the Troutdale facilities since the early '80's.
- 5 You're talking about being local here, no, but I'm sure every
- 6 one in this room comes up there skiing, snowmobiling, stops at
- 7 service stations and restaurants, has a hamburger. We're the
- 8 one that takes care of the rest of it.
- 9 COUNCILOR BURGER-KIMBER: The after-hamburger, huh?
- 10 MR. RAY: The after hamburger.
- 11 MAYOR BUI: Next.
- MR. SMELSER: I'm Jerry Smelser. I'm Drain Doctor out
- 13 of Estacada and Colton area, servicing basically Clackamas
- 14 County. We service a lot of pit toilets and whatnot, we have
- 15 -- we go (indiscernible) up the Clackamas River, and we take
- 16 care of all that area. We have a lot of grease traps and stuff
- 17 that we were doing which we're no longer doing anymore because
- 18 we don't have any place to put it. We need Wastewater
- 19 Management.
- 20 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. Next.
- MR. ZOE: My name's John Zoe (ph). I don't currently
- 22 own a septic business or anything, but I think something that's
- 23 kind of interesting that an issue's been made about waste being
- 24 dumped on Troutdale. In a sense that's sort of like saying,
- 25 well, Portland's saying, well, Wonder Bread can't go outside

- 1 the city of Portland. And I'm sure the city of Troutdale would
- 2 like to have people at Hanford -- I know there's radiation in
- 3 the water and everything else, and you guys draw the water out
- 4 of the Columbia River, that you wish that people would have taken
- 5 a little bigger scope of things. And I think that needs to be
- 6 addressed and you can't just worry about what's just happening
- 7 in Troutdale.
- 8 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. Next.
- 9 MR. MORRIS: My name's Randy Morris. I represent
- 10 Spencer Environmental Company. We're based near Ross' in Oregon
- 11 City, and in Portland -- the Portland area and throughout the
- 12 state, actually. Most of the waters that we bring to the
- 13 facility come from excavation sites that's basically
- 14 (indiscernible).
- 15 MAYOR BUI: Thank you, next.
- 16 MR. JERNSIDE: I'm Bob Jernside (ph) with Shultz
- 17 Sanitation. We're basically Parkrose, haul out of Corbett, a
- 18 large amount in that area and Troutdale.
- 19 MAYOR BUI: Thank you, next.
- 20 MR. FURLEY: I'm Steve Furley (ph), the owner of Avco
- 21 Sanitation, and we're presently the only licensed company that
- 22 can do grease traps in Vancouver, and that is our only source.
- 23 Vancouver will not take grease traps. I've talked to the City.
- 24 I've talked to EOS who runs it. They don't have the proper
- 25 technology to do it. So that is the only legitimate place we

- 1 have. The other pumper was dumping illegally and he's being
- 2 investigated by the EPA presently. So that's what can happen,
- 3 I guess.
- 4 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. Next.
- 5 MR. WATSON: I have one other comment that I forgot.
- 6 Those of you that are ecology-minded, this waste that we dump
- 7 at Wastewater is treated before it goes into the treatment
- 8 plant. I've dumped at the city of Portland before when they
- 9 were maxed out, and my whole load that I had paid for and charged
- 10 somebody else for went straight into the river. At least you
- 11 know, the City of Troutdale, that you're doing your best for
- 12 ecology. Thank you.
- 13 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. Is there anyone else?
- Mr. Zupancic, I'll hand it back to you.
- 15 MR. ZUPANCIC: Mr. Mayor, just a couple of minor and
- 16 closing comments, please, for Mr. Lee, and then I'll close.
- MR. LEE: My prior comments were primarily comments were
- 18 primarily directed at Mr. Ripma's questions, and I realize I
- 19 spent more time than I probably should have at answering his
- 20 questions, but I needed to get the background for your benefit.
- 21 This process is a bit unique. There are other solutions
- 22 to solving the problems. There are landfills and other places
- 23 that can take some of these wastes but at significantly greater
- 24 peril. This process is simply basically a matter of taking
- 25 things like Purex or Clorox which we all use in our households

- 1 to render a product which is rather high in oils and grease and
- 2 bacteria and organic matter somewhat sterile and bleached. The
- 3 paper industry uses chlorine a great deal. The textile industry
- 4 uses chlorine a great deal. And there is a great deal of concern
- 5 about the use of chlorine in our environment. There are many
- 6 more things we don't know than we do know.
- 7 I heard behind me the suggestion that we analyze the
- 8 effects on the rivers and so forth, and those issues are being
- 9 done and will continue being done.
- Based on the library research that I've done these past
- 11 couple of days and my prior research in this matter, the system
- 12 can work. It can fail if it's not properly operated and
- 13 maintained. That's another issue. But the fact is it can
- 14 work, it will work. The problems I've identified in the past
- 15 deal primarily with the control of the process so it's easily
- 16 dewatered and what you get off of it is something that can be
- 17 treated at your wastewater treatment plants. It needs to be
- 18 controlled which I think the public works is requiring of this
- 19 process; and that would be appropriate. Those controls will
- 20 add somewhat to the expense, but, nonetheless, it is still a
- 21 viable process.
- DEQ has not voided the process. EPA has not voided the
- 23 process. There's been great debate about it at EPA. I have
- 24 many of their articles that they published on it. To this date
- 25 there is still no identifiable reason not to allow it if it's

- 1 still properly operated and maintained.
- With regard to the water quality studies, the health
- 3 division studies, the Columbia River and the Sandy, DEQ studies
- 4 it. There was an independent consultant retained by the EPA
- 5 that did a lot of studies, something Tech -- I can't remember
- 6 their exact name. I have their interim report in my office.
- 7 The Rockwood Water District will be studying the water quality
- 8 issue this summer; at least that's the intent along with a joint
- 9 agreement with the City of Portland in which they will be doing
- 10 pilot studies and analyzing disinfection byproducts and other
- 11 matters related to the use of chlorine and the radionuclide
- 12 issues and many others downstream of the confluence of the Sandy
- 13 River which will include your effluent discharge to the Sandy.
- 14 So these issues are a concern. They will continue to
- 15 be addressed so far as I'm aware. The programs are in place.
- 16 The budgets are in place to accomplish these things. To my mind
- 17 there is no reason not to allow this to continue to operate with
- 18 proper controls to give you the assurances that you need that
- 19 this process does not upset your plant and to give the public
- 20 the confidence it needs to assure that we're not harming the
- 21 environment. Thank you.
- 22 MAYOR BUI: Thank you. Let me just say that we are going
- 23 to have a public hearing on this matter on the 9th. I'd like
- 24 to thank all of the different haulers and processors who came
- 25 tonight and the opportunity to meet them, and you, yourself,

- 1 as well. And I'm sorry that you have to go through this again,
- 2 personally, but that's sometimes the way, what do I say, the
- 3 ball bounces, since this was not a technical public hearing and
- 4 we cannot act unless we go through that, as I understand it.
- 5 So with that, do you have anything else to say?
- 6 MR. ZUPANCIC: I would just like to thank the Council
- 7 for the understanding on the temporary discharge issue, and my
- 8 apologies. I did not mean to infer that anybody did drop the
- 9 ball on this tonight. But I've been very pleased to work with
- 10 your negotiating committee, and we look forward and are
- 11 optimistic that within the next week or so we can get everything
- 12 resolved, get it before you, so everybody will have a full report
- 13 at the next meeting. Thank you.
- 14 MAYOR BUI: Thank you.
- 15 That closes that matter.
- 16 (Requested portion concluded.)

DECLARATION OF TRANSCRIBER

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