

# CITY OF TROUTDALE

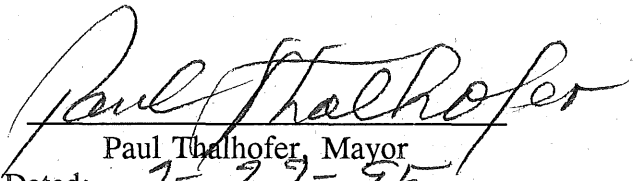
**AGENDA**  
**TROUTDALE CITY COUNCIL - WORK SESSION**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**TROUTDALE CITY HALL**  
**104 SE KIBLING AVENUE**  
**TROUTDALE, OR 97060-2099**

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**FEBRUARY 28, 1995**

**DIRECTLY FOLLOWING REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL
2. DISCUSSION: Sewage Treatment Plant Capacity Update.
3. ADJOURNMENT.

  
Paul Thalhofer, Mayor  
Dated: 2-22-95

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**MINUTES**  
**TROUTDALE CITY COUNCIL - WORK SESSION**  
**TROUTDALE CITY HALL**  
**CITY CHAMBER**  
**104 SE KIBLING AVE**  
**TROUTDALE. OREGON 97060**

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**February 28, 1995**

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Councilor Smith, Councilor Ripma, Councilor Thompson, Councilor Kight, Councilor Lloyd, Councilor Burger-Kimber, Mayor Thalhofer

Mayor Thalhofer: We are going to have a discussion on the sewage treatment plant update. Mr Galloway, please.

Jim Galloway: The purpose of having this work session is back on January 17th when CH2M Hill gave a presentation to the Council, a couple of things appeared to perhaps confuse or complicate matters. It was expressed by a couple of councilors that we revisit some of those topics and perhaps. Also you asked to receive a copy of the final report when it came out and that came out around the end of January and copies were made so if you have comments or questions regarding that we can also try to respond to those. I think everyone knows but I'll introduce him for the record, Mike Sorenson our plant supervisor and Darrell Worthington our environmental specialist. The first page you have is an overview of what we are going to talk about and the first attachment is a schematic that I'll talk about very briefly. You saw this as the hand out from CH2M Hill, what we tried to do to make it a little bit clearer was add a little bit of information and a little bit better labeling on it and also put what it is and what it does description on the back of this. Just very briefly what you see here; is the top half the dotted area is the liquids processing portion of the treatment plant, what is in the dot dash portion on the bottom half of the page is the solids handling, I don't know if that was real clear or not from the first session. What we have put down on the left hand column for you, the 1994 average, those are just three statistics of what the plant takes in. We get a 1.15 million gallons a day in flow, 398 milligrams per liter or parts per million BOD, 256 milligrams per liter of totally suspended solids.

Councilor Kight: What is really missing here is capacity.

Jim Galloway: Capacity of ?

Councilor Kight: of the plant.

Jim Galloway: We will address that in a minute and the bottom line is there isn't a capacity, there is a bunch of capacities and that is one of the difficult things that makes it hard but I will try to cover that. Start out with the head works where the waste stream enters the plant and basically what we try to do there is we try to remove sand and grit, egg shells, large rags, big solid items. Then it goes to the primary clarifier, the settling process to try to get some of the solids out of there and along with that we take out some of the BOD. Then it goes to aeration basins that's where we have the contact between bacteria and the waste water and it's a process involving as the name indicates significant amount air or oxygen, from there it goes to the secondary clarifier for additional settling process, additional solids and BOD and then into the UV disinfection which is the newest part of our plant that went on line the first of December and that's a process instead of using chlorine to do the disinfecting and get rid of the disease causing microorganisms. Ultraviolet rays break up the DNA, prohibits the microorganisms from reproducing and since they have a short life we've accomplished the same disinfection process without chemicals in the waste. Out of this, as the lines indicate, we have some solids coming out of the primary clarifier, raw sludge that goes into the gravity thickener, out of the secondary clarifier the waste activated sludge goes into the gravity thickener. The purpose of the gravity thickener is simply to remove some of the water from that so when you move it out of the digester complex it doesn't have to handle such a large volume and you can get by with smaller digesters. Digesters render the thickened sludge into stabilized sludge and from there it simply goes into the lagoon as a storage area. Basically the bottom half of the lagoon is the sludge and the top half is just the water cap and it serves the purpose that simply we don't have to go and haul sludge when weather conditions are unable to meet sludge hauling, that's why the storage. That is the 30 second sewage 101 any quick questions on that? I hope I haven't made it more confusing than it was before and I hope I was able to clarify a thing or two on the first time around.

Mayor Thalhoffer: Where did the odors come from?

Councilor Burger-Kimber: The aeration basin, right.

Jim Galloway: I believe that, if all of us went down to the plant probably all of us would walk away with a slightly different answer to your question. My personal view is from my nose that normally you will get odors from the head works and usually around the aeration basin. I have also noticed those odors, I have walked away and have found that in 20 to 30 feet I don't detect those odors anymore. My personal feeling is I don't think those odors are going beyond the bounds of our treatment plant. I know there are others who differ.

Councilor Kight: Is it because you've become acclimated or because it's dispersed?

Jim Galloway: Mike doesn't let me spent enough time down there to become acclimated, no I .....

I don't think I am down there enough to say I can't smell it because, but maybe my nose is stuffed up beside, I don't know. I would say that among the odors maybe look at the folks next door and on occasions maybe even look at what's across the river. A second thing that we want to clarify just briefly are the need for future improvements. I think there were a couple of comments from councilors last time indicating that they were very surprised that we were coming and saying that there was need for additional improvements at the plant. I wanted to make everyone realize that this wasn't something brand new that never foreseen before; I didn't spend an awful lot of time on researching but I did list three or four things there under the second bullet there under historical perspective. August of 83 when the plan was put together, and I did make a copy of that as your attachment #3 with this drawing right here, shows somewhat what we are proposing probably now that there are needs and the shaded areas were colored on the original when I made copies, talk about a future primary clarifier and secondary aeration basin. I think, that this was an indication, that yes, all along it was recognized that there are needs for additional improvements. The sewer system SDC study that was done in 91 or 92 and the council adopted in 92, talked about a feature phase 3 and yet to be determined and that the treatment plant be done shortly after the turn of the century for 2.4 million dollars. We started talking to the council in March 93 about the need of pretreatment ordinances, that was due to the fact that we were recognizing then that some of our industrial users were putting significant loads on the treatment process that was probably going to result in the need for additional improvements. DEQ came to us in September of 93 with a letter indicating that we were having some problems meeting our permits standards and warning that action had been taken. The budget process of last year asking to do the capacity of local limits study that CH2M Hill briefed you on last month and talked again about the reason why we were getting into that was we're exceeding the capacity of some of the components at the plant. I think the results of that study and our inclinations were that probably what was getting away from us was the industrial loading. Attachment 4 which is the first of the bar graphs, you saw on the report by CH2M Hill at the January 17<sup>th</sup> work session and it shows the BOD loading which is only one component of the plant process, yes we are over the current design, doesn't mean we are in violation of anything because there are safety factors built into the design and Mike and his staff, I think, are doing some miraculous jobs in some cases in keeping us within permit almost all of the time but it does show that we are exceeding our design capacity with the total load. The next graph, attachment 5, looks only at the domestic load. Attachment 5 looks at that same BOD loading but only at the domestic load minus the industry and I think there is an indication that we would be in capacity until around the turn of the century. I think the intent there is to show what's really come on us greater than

expected is the industrial load and that's further amplified by the last item, item 6, which looks at the industrial load in the total BOD loading in the most recent years, kind of a very gradual increase up until 92 and then some really big spikes in 93 and 94. Things have really taken off in recent years and I think that is industrial loading. That's all I want to present to you in regards to background and then we'll get into the points of the study that Les has and then we'll have questions and comments on what I've covered so far.

Male: Obviously the big problem seem to be your industrial users are you going to address that in your next set of comments?

Jim Galloway: We'll talk a little bit about that....

Councilor Lloyd: Mr. Mayor may I better do something to clear a conflict here.

Mayor Thalhoffer: Oh, please do.

Councilor Lloyd: Jasco Truck Wash is a client of mine and as been for many years. I never represented them or had anything to do with their plant here and have never been asked to advise them on any of these issues, however I have dealt with Burns Brothers on their behalf for years and so for what it's worth I will throw that out. They have not only this facility but many other similar facilities so for what it's worth, there it is.

Mayor Thalhoffer: OK

Jim Galloway: Section two on the cover document is simply to recap the results of the capacity study. You didn't have time to go through this and you kind of wonder about the bottom line, I tried to condense it into section two here. What I did was identify each of the processes and I think you'll find the same terminology and the processes that are found on the initial flow sheet. We talked about capacity and according to the study when that capacity would be reached. In answer to your earlier question Jim on capacity, each component is driven by it's own capacity rating. Typically or probably if you hear any one thing about a plant it is usually flow and right now our design capacity based on flow only is 1.6 million gallons a day but if you look each component has its own capacity, some of which are in good shape for a while and some of them are over capacity now.

Councilor Kight: Your flow today is 1.15 and your capacity is 1.6, is that right?

Jim Galloway: Oh the average. Give or take a million. The bottom line on the CH2M Hill capacity study was to say that our secondary treatment and specifically our

aeration basin and secondary clarifier are currently being operated above their design capacity today. They talked about some possible remedies and I don't recall if they use the definitions near, short and long term that I have used here in section 3 but that was the best possible way that I could delineate that. They talked about the near terms things that we could do, establish local limits, that would be to regulate more strictly what is coming into the plant, especially by common industrial users, the second item was on enhancement, they talked about the use of alum and Mike has since added some information regarding polymer usage that is something we had used last summer when our discharge permits got tighter on what we can discharge into the Sandy River and that is something we will continue to use this year. You will see it for the first time in the budget process, we budgeted 10 or 12 thousand dollars for polymer for chemical enhancement this summer at the treatment plant. They also talked about trucked waste, it was presented in context by CH2M Hill as the possibility of trucking waste and I think they were specifically talking about trucking some of the waste from the McMenamin's brewery to our digesters. I don't think we're overly thrilled about that particular idea but the idea of trucked waste somewhere maybe to a system that has a greater capacity and could receive without an adverse impact. Gresham or Portland are a couple of examples, maybe if their process could handle it and treat it adequately, Waste Water Management but anyway something other than directly to our plant is certainly an option that I don't know if we might consider it to impose on anyone but it might be an option that say McMenamins might come up with, that's more economically feasible rather than build some expensive pretreatment facility. Those are some things that we are looking at and probably Darrell and the folks at the treatment plant are spending the majority of their time working with McMenamins and in fact they met again yesterday talking about issues, certainly they are not the only industrial user but they are certainly one of the bigger ones.

Councilor Kight: How about Burns?

Jim Galloway: Burns Brothers from a volume is probably the biggest user that we have in the city.

Councilor Kight: What communication have you had with them?

Darrell Worthington: I have been working with their manager Kurt Price, trying to bring them into compliance. Just recently looked at the maintenance on their grease traps for the deli and the restaurant and they are working diligently to try to maintain them.

Councilor Kight: How about the truck wash?

Darrell Worthington: The truck wash we don't have a lot of information on as their actual contribution to load. There are some other issues we've been working on and

trying to get them taken care of.

Councilor Kight: Are they agreeable to making the changes?

Darrell Worthington: Yes.

Male: One of the things that we are dealing with Burns Brothers and most of the industrial users, trying to get good data, most business that have been here for sometime we don't have an effective means of measuring the amount of waste that they are giving to us. You go to the water records, subtract things out that we figure are not coming into the waste stream, irrigation or a similar process that doesn't discharge to the treatment plant and then estimating how much flow we are getting from them. We also don't have a convenient site where you can go and take a sample and say this is business X and nobody else, so isolating waste stream and quantifying waste stream are two of the biggest problems we've had.

Councilor Kight: Do other municipalities, do they do that?

Jim Galloway: Some do require that, that's my understanding from the study from CH2M Hill did for us and we are now requiring as one of our standards of all new development. Obviously there's a lot of that out there now and that maybe one of the first steps that we have to take and are certainly the form of topics that I know that Darrell, Mike and Greg are discussing with McMenamins as a first step to take a look at the brewery process.

Councilor Kight: Is it set up so that eventually to..... whatever process you could eventually measure that from.

Jim Galloway: It is an option that the city could exercise that's in a pretreatment code, a pretreatment ordinance in the cities code, so it is a tool that we could use. It is one that we are being selective on because it has considerable cost involved and we are trying not to require anybody's brother to go back and retrofit their business with this but probably the line that you give to us is such that we need to get more information and that's the approach we are kind of taking.

Councilor Burger-Kimber: In looking at the chart at who has the largest impact ,it almost indicates to me that two and three, the truck wash and the brewery really didn't have that great of an effect but it looks.... in the following year in 92, something happened in 92 that effected 93 and 94 and I am just wondering if there's another factor that we haven't addressed.

Jim Galloway: It may well be, we are going back and taking a look at records. There

does appear to be some lag between when those business came on line or did a major upgrade or something and when we started noticing the difficulties. We are going back and looking at water records because we are assuming that probably someone who is having a greater impact on us in 93 than they did in 92 probably the quantity of water may have gone up and that's one of the things we are taking a look at.

Mike Sorenson: Or the new grease traps that weren't cleaned for a year.

Councilor Burger-Kimber: Well one of the things that occurred to me was Waste Water Management was shut down for a while and then they are doing a much larger volume than they ever did before and yet their... I am wondering if they are part of the factor in here.

Councilor Thompson: This was probably..... If I remember right about the time that lease was finally signed with Waste Water Management.

Jim Galloway: They were held in a order\_\_\_\_\_ in the latter part of 92, well I am saying ..... prior to the time they were really reduced in volume, while there was some question as whether they had a valid lease with the city, prior to that they were discharging quantities greater than what they are now so if they were the principal culprit and I am not saying they had no impact but if they were the principal culprit you'd tend to think that the curve would have been up then down and some point in 92 and then back up again.

Councilor Thompson: But we had two more industries coming in, Burns Brothers and Edgefield, coming in to take up the slack.

Jim Galloway: Certainly at this point we are not saying they are the only one, but those are the 3 that we asked CH2M Hill to spend the limits resources that we gave them to look at them very close. That's why they're the only names that are on here. Waste Water Management doesn't appear on the particular chart because we tried to show when somebody came on line. Waste Water Management came on line in 84 or 85 so they wouldn't appear on this particular chart but their figures are included in there. I think that's kind of where we stand on near term. Short term as proposed by C.H.2 M Hill they were to look at two at mid scale projects, one was to add the fresh air aerator and secondary clarifier as measures that might intend to improve the performance of what we have there now and their price figure, I noticed wasn't included in the final report but was included in their briefing that they gave you last time , for those 2 things was about \$290,000.00. I think at this point staff has some question as to whether that would be a real good investment or not and we would probably like to look into that before we recommend to you that we make those improvements even though you will see it currently in our draft budget that we have provided to Pam. Our concerns simply



number one in a relatively short period of time are they going to pay back the value of a \$290,000.00 capital investment and secondly if whatever long term solution that we adopt includes the demolition or conversion of that facility is it smart to pump a couple hundred thousand into it or tear it down or modify it in a couple of years so even though CH2M Hill recommended it, I guess you could say it's a tough question right now from our perspective. The long term recommendation by CH2M Hill was either a major upgrade or as I believe at least a couple of councilors have advocated to relocate the plant. That kind of summarizes their recommendations. On the back of the page on section four are the actions we are planning to take unless you care to direct us otherwise. First of all we begin the implementation of local limits as I mentioned we've done that through a permitting process with Waste Water Management and quite happy to report that for the past several months now they have met the rather stringent restrictions that we placed on them. We have one violation in the last 3 or 4 months, one day they gave us a couple of thousands gallons more than they were supposed to but as far as meeting limits on BOD, solids, chlorine, and PH and so on they have done and stayed basically in compliance. The bulk of our attention now has been turned towards McMenamins and we'll continue to chip away on those. As I mentioned earlier we would continue the use of seasonal additives and as mentioned in this budget, \$11,000.00 for polymers that we would try to improve the process there especially when we under go a 50% reduction in the waste stream that we are allowed to put into the Sandy River during the winter months we are allowed a 30 milligram per liter BOD and 30 milligram per liter solids content in the waste stream that we provide to the Sandy but in the summer months that drops down to 20 and 20, depending on how you do the math either 1/3 or 1/2 change there. We would recommend to peruse the feasibility study that we submitted to the Corp of Engineers where we are asking for their assistance in doing a study as to whether it is feasible to do a plant relocation or whether we should stay with a plant upgrade. I think that's probably something we would like some thoughts from the council on. I have received an indication from the corp that it looks like our application is going to be approved. The next step would be to sit down and negotiate an exact scope of work and the funding end of it. We had put it in with a number of \$75,000.00 we're required to provide 50% of that in in kind services and we're still not sure what that is. My intent is try to use this and say this is the bulk of our in kind services because this is certainly the front end of what they would need to be doing. I did that only in response to some comments that were made by different members of the council and if we need to go through that process then certainly we need to go with the services with somebody that is willing to kick in part of the funding for it. If that's not..... if there's not interest I would certainly like to know that up front and drop that stuff out of the process because I think that adding that stuff in process is probably going to stretch things out 6 or 8 months while we go through that and if we're not serious about at least looking into that then we need to know that and I'll drop our request to the Corp and move into the next step of looking at the facility and upgrade what we've got now.

Mayor Thalhofer: I for one am very serious about pursuing that.

Councilor Kight: Let me just get some points of clarification because I probably concur with the Mayor but what is the Corp going to do that we have not already done.

Mr. Galloway: There are three things that I have currently put down as tentative tasks with major task that I would like them to do. I think we would negotiate those tasks a little bit if we think we want to go in a different direction. One is to consider the feasibility of relocating the plant versus upgrading the plant, CH2M Hill did not look at a plant relocation, they looked at what's wrong with our existing plant. Basically it's going to be a three step process if you will. First, tell us where the short falls are and that's what this report did. Second step is going to be a feasibility facilities plan which would look at a range of alternatives and look at our short fall and then come up with the most economical, efficient, logical means to go ahead and do that. Third step is design and build that recommended improvement. We tentatively have at least inserted a fourth step in there between cure of the short fall and before you go into a facility plan to overcome the short fall. We are now considering a feasibility to see if we want to correct these short falls or do we want to move our plant and construct a new one somewhere.

Councilor Kight: Some where in that scenario that you've outline for the Corp of Engineers, do they look at just the plant facility itself, just the hardware relative to plant or do they look at land acquisition, do they look at the whole package?

Mr. Galloway: I would think..... we haven't got to that little detail, it has all been one-sided, I submitted an application. I think that when we negotiate a scope of work with them that could be or should be included, I think that without at least knowing something about land acquisition, availability and cost I don't know how they can determine something is feasible

Mayor Thalhofer: Not only that but.... the market value of the land on which the sewer plant exists today. Is the Corp up to getting the market value of the land almost in the downtown.

Mr. Galloway: Certainly they have the capability of that, they have a real estate section that handles real estate transaction for the Corp.

Councilor Kight: I am all in favor of the Corp looking at all of the alternatives, sitting down at a table like this again and making a determination of whether we can afford to move the plant.

Mr. Galloway: The major task is the feasibility. The second thing that we ask was and I

would not at all be hesitant about dropping at all when we negotiate the scope of work was to look at.... the idea of privatization and the main reason I included that was you got extra points for mentioning it, so I mentioned it and got 15 points.

Councilor Kight: When you say privatization, would that be at the current location?

Mr. Galloway: I think that's probably... could be a point to either but the idea is.... the current thinking of government is.. should government get out of certain things and let private enterprise do certain things. I quite frankly don't think there's an awful lot of benefit to the community for privatization of that operation and that is probably one of the first things I would give up if they say " well you know we can't do everything that you want us to do in the time with the dollars available" that is probably one of the first things I would probably cough up. The third task that we happened to mention was to determine the rate payers willingness to pay for whatever increased costs these alternatives would result in. Depending on how much we could take from SDC's and how much we take out of rates and if we go to relocation I don't know if SDC's will carry that full load and I think there's going to be a tremendous impact on the rate payers and so the third task was to determine what the rate payers are willing to pay. We also ask them to look into funding sources and include potential grants and low cost loans; find out if there were any grants out there.

Councilor Ripma: We need to look at the possibility of a regional plant with Gresham. I talked to Jim about this before tonight.....it seems to me we ought to consider adding that to this study if possible for this proposal with the Corp of Engineers. If we're going to think in terms of building a new plant, a whole new plant, we owe it to the rate payers to look into the possibility of going into Gresham on an expansion of their plant. Jim made just a tentative inquiry with a technical person there and Gresham is looking at around the turn of the century of having to make a major expansion. That's not far from our time line for building a new plant. I am not really saying I am in favor of it, because I'm not but we have got to look at the option. I favor, correct me if I am wrong, but you thought that could be added to the scope of this and it might add to the cost and it might not exceed the seventy five thousand that we considered.

Mr. Galloway: If that is your wish that it be added we could certainly bring that up with the Corp and see if that could be included.

Councilor Ripma: I think that the council should make a decision, give direction in the respect to go ahead and add that as another option to look at and probably the Mayor should send a general letter or a political contact somehow should be made with the Gresham leaders to say that we're interested in studying that and it's very preliminary or something along those lines so their staff could work with us.

Councilor Thompson: What about the potential of taking over Wood Village and Fairview? Getting that from Gresham because Gresham does theirs now?

Male: and adding that to ours.

Councilor Thompson: Adding that to ours and prolong Gresham's life.

Councilor Ripma: Similar approach...

Councilor Thompson: for additional funding... yeah...I wouldn't want to combine ours with Gresham. Their not going to like that.

Councilor Ripma: We needed to make an approach to Gresham so their staff will work with us, is Gresham's the plant that has to be looked at right now because it handles Wood Village and Fairview. My thought was we are not expecting Gresham to fund this we just need the cooperation, we're doing the study.

Councilor Thompson: I would add my second to that, I think that we have to look at this feasibility because there are people in the community that ask the question of me "Why don't we just pipe this stuff down to Gresham" and I'm not saying that's totally unfeasible. I think you have to be able to answer that question.

Mayor Thalhofer: Yes, you have to do a study on it. It makes sense to a lot of people who don't understand how this thing works and maybe makes sense, I don't know...

Mike Sorenson: Well it makes sense if there's a possibility... if we do build a new plant that it could be a regional plant taking Fairview, Wood Village and even some of Greshams perhaps.

Mayor Thalhofer: When you have these sewage treatment plants, anymore your talking about something that is regional in nature.

Councilor Kight: What about the idea that I kind of like, approaching Wood Village and Fairview, if we're going to expand our own plant maybe share some of the cost in that expansion.

Mayor Thalhofer: Would it have to be pumped in?

Mr. Galloway: I would assume so.

Pam Christian: I could add a little bit of history to that in terms of there is a portion of Wood Village that does actually, that could actually flow to our plant with almost no

pumping. The last time we entered into discussions with them 5,6 years ago, we knew that we were going to do this last expansion, while they were certainly interested in sending it our way. They weren't particularly interested in participating in the capitalization of the expansion. They just want to pay a monthly bill and call it good. I am trying to be as tactful as I can to say that they didn't see any benefit in .....

Mike Sorenson: The virtue of the current timing though is also Gresham is looking at expansion and they are going to be looking at assuming it.

Mr. Galloway: I don't think so. My understanding of the way that Gresham has done it with Fairview and Wood Village is that those cities have bought a block of VRU's or some measure of capacity and as long as they don't exceed what they pre-purchased I don't think Gresham can go back on them.

Pam Christian: That's how their agreements are set right now.

Councilor Thompson: Do you think that Fairview has a sufficient block to handle Fairview Village?

Pam Christian: Fairview passed a bond, like a eight hundred thousand or million dollar bond, eight years ago. They have considerable capacity that they have bought to build out, what was estimated to be built out at the time so they might be close now but they have been pretty on top of that issue.

Councilor Thompson: I would just think with continued development, Fairview Village development and the continued growth in Gresham, they are going to be looking to expand.

Mr. Galloway: I would suspect that if one were to approach Fairview with that question. One of the questions that they would need to answer before they could respond would be can they get back from Gresham what investment they made. They certainly wouldn't want to consider that a sunk loss and just walk away. Certainly I get the sense that's another issue or alternative that I would like to have explored and I will certainly work with the Corp and see if we could include that in the scope. I think that is a fairly big task just looking at the number of entities that they would have to deal with all of sudden they would have to deal with not only Gresham but with Fairview and Wood Village and the relationship between Wood Village, Fairview and Gresham. I suspect we would greatly be increasing the scope of that task maybe just for privatization sake that I would assume that we would want them to take a look at the upgrade of our plant compared to relocating the plant, is that a fair statement. The second thing would be comparing those to going to Gresham or comparing those to a Wood Village, Fairview joining in on a Troutdale plant. If I have to drop one and only select one?

Councilor Ripma: My thought would be only going to Gresham, as the easier approach. After all that seems to me that one of those is going to be the most attractive way to go. If Gresham's expansion could be relieved by us going into Fairview, Wood Village to build a regional plant it would still be done effectively with cooperation with Gresham because they would have to give back.... they would have to say OK we're letting Fairview out of its deal because we need this capacity. I am thinking to simplify and make it workable have them do the study comparing it to Gresham and that will give us information about cost and at that point... we don't have to propose the regional Fairview, Wood Village.

Councilor Thompson: That's an option we are going to need to consider.

Councilor Kight: Excuse me can we go back to option one.... In your updating existing are you talking about capital improvement related to the equipment or are we talking about sealing the lagoons in order to make it "odor free" if there is such a thing?

Mr. Galloway: I was only considering the upgrades of the plant function. If we are talking about something else...

Councilor Kight: It was just something I threw out there. If your going to expand capacity and add additional lagoons eventually we are going to have a major odor problem and I don't know how you get around it just by the sheer volume of the waste that you are handling.

Mike Sorenson: We wouldn't actually be adding lagoons.

Councilor Kight: I thought you were adding one additional lagoon.

Mike Sorenson: No,no,no, clarifier and aerators and they are substantially different. First off it's sewage treatment and it's going to smell, sometime or other, whether it could go 360 days a year and smell like a rose and then there's those five days, whether it's in plant routine run, the cleaning of tanks the what not that generate odors..... if you have a lot more capacity so certainly you don't have all this concentrated mass so odors should be somewhat diminished in that fashion but it's a sewage treatment plant and you don't know, if something comes down the line that makes the plant sick it could stink.

Darrell Worthington: I don't think it's fixable. Go to Milwaukee where they got almost the same kind of situation we do except they have tried capping this that and the other and spraying perfume in the air and all that good stuff and it still stinks.

Mayor Thalhofer: Let me ask you about Corvallis? I didn't notice any odor in Corvallis?

Darrell Worthington: You hit one of those days when it smelled like a rose.

Mayor Thalhofer: We visited the Corvallis plant one time and I didn't smell anything but of course that's just one day..... ours doesn't smell.....

Darrell Worthington: A typical day it doesn't unless you are right on top of each process and then yeah your going to get a smell.

Councilor Kight: So basically what the people are smelling over at the Factory Outlet Stores is Waste Water Management?

Darrell Worthington: I don't buy that.

Mayor Thalhofer: I don't know, does anybody know from any research or checking with someone like Corvallis does it have an odor to it similar to ours, does anybody know?

Darrell Worthington: I haven't checked.

Mayor Thalhofer: It might pay to check Corvallis at least when we made the tour it was kind of a over cast day as I recall and its not apt to smell as much, the hot days are when they smell and we didn't go down there on a hot day. I imagine if they've had complaints about the smell from time to time it would be nice to know, if they don't have a smell problem like we do, then ask them what they are doing.

Councilor Burger-Kimber: One of the things that keeps sticking out in my mind as we kind of go through this time and time again is the aeration basin and I think that the description of that thing and the name in of itself tells us what the problem is also you said tonight in your presentation that some of the smell was at the head works and then aeration basin. We've got that aeration basin sitting out there bubbling and putting methane gas into the air. I was wondering of the mitigation of the problems here it is not mentioned that covering that aeration basin but with the possible expansion of adding another aeration basin. Is there any design consideration for covering it?

Mike Sorenson: First off the aeration basin, and I am down there every day, that's probably the best smelling thing down there. If you really

Councilor Burger-Kimber: But I traveled, you have taken me to that plant several times and to me that's where the smell is coming from.

Mike Sorenson: It's a very earthy musty odor, it's not a petrified rotting odor. If you think back before the digester was on line and what the problems were down there then, that place had a huge odor problem when those digesters went on line that odor

problem was significantly reduced, quite significantly, the problem was.... that the old digesters we had at the time were designed to handle 20 to 30 and we were trying to shove 9000, can't do it and therefore we were only partially decomposing the waste and partially decomposed phase you are going to have very bad odors, when we took that load off the digesters that portion of the odors went away. A lot of what you smell again are the day to day type stuff something comes down the line that is not compatible with the plant it is going to let us know and that's how it does.

Councilor Burger-Kimber: When you were putting the original design in the plant the idea was to trap some of that methane gas and burn it off as heat and the last time I talked to you that wasn't being done.

Mike Sorenson: We aren't heating the digesters, we aren't making enough gas to run those heaters.

Councilor Burger-Kimber: Is the gas being released?

Mike Sorenson: It is being burned off.

Councilor Burger-Kimber: It is being burned off so you are dealing with that odor problem.

Mr. Galloway: As Mike said we haven't looked at the scope of the upgrading of the facilities as capping, if that's your desire to do so we will certainly have someone take a look at it. Among the reasons that we haven't are we have a couple of problems with it, you can enclose virtually anything if you want to spend the time and effort and money to do it. Once you have enclosed it you really haven't solved the problem you only started the problems. First of all now you have concentrated whatever you are producing so you have to develop a mechanism to scrub or somehow handle those gases or put at big stack on it so you are going to put those gases up in the atmosphere to dissipate or do something, otherwise all you have done is just concentrated those gases and where ever you have an outlet if there is a problem it is going to magnified. You have created a confined space problem for the workers at the plant and I suspect that we are going to have to do something in the way of safely processing or procedures or equipment or something if basically you are going to put a lid over something where you are producing potential deadly gases, so I think a solution or a potential solution here is going to be many times the cost of the technical treatment processes that we need but if it is your desire to have it looked at we will have someone look at it.

Councilor Ripma: My feeling is for the purpose of this study let's just study build out of the plant, I mean you can get into all kinds of theoretical options.....



Councilor Burger-Kimber: Well sure but somebody ought to be able to tell us where the odor is coming from. I don't understand why we can't identify that.

Mayor Thalhofer: We know it was coming from our plant and the one next door.

Councilor Burger-Kimber: Yeah but where from what and what percentages.....

Mayor Thalhofer: At certain times when the other plant is doing certain things the smell is quite dramatic. They can smell it downtown very vivid.

Mike Sorenson: At also at third and that's the canning street plant... what you smell when you smell the paper mill is their aeration basin and they are huge.

Mayor Thalhofer: What I would like to do is bring this to closure. We could probably be discussing for a long period time. Does anybody have anything new and enlightening to bring up.

Councilor Ripma: I favor him studying build out and leave the plant where it is and just studying build out, without covering, capping, or anything else because it's the most realistic.

Mr. Galloway: I think that what we've agreed upon with the Corp is to essentially look at comparing the expansion of the system without the odor control mechanisms to the plant to merge with Gresham is we can get them to expand the scope far enough to our plant facility. Once we have those options and are presented to you and you make a decision on which way to go then I think we would need a facility plan that would determine the most economical way to implement which ever one of those options that you pick. Then at the time we should enter into a final order of stipulation with DEQ, and that does a couple of things, it tells them what kind of steps we're going to take to correct problems to get back into compliance and basically gives us some relief from them or a third party taking action against us if we should not be able to meet permit during the interim period that it should take to get back into full compliance and of course, that's the general track we're planning to take unless you see other wise.

Mayor Thalhofer: Sounds good to me.

Councilor Kight: let's do it.

Mayor Thalhofer: OK any motions?

Councilor Ripma: I move we adjourn.

Councilor Thompson: Second.

Mayor Thalsofer: A motion has been made and seconded that we adjourn. Vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned.

Unapproved Minutes

Prepared by a Temporary Employee, June 2000