

**City of Glenns Ferry City Council Workshop: Water/Sewer Infrastructure Bond  
August 24, 2021**

The City Council Workshop of the City of Glenns Ferry was opened and called to order at 5:30 pm on Tuesday, August 24, 2021, by Monty White, Mayor.

Members Present: Billy Galloska, Kenny Thompson, Mayor Monty White

Staff Present: Christy Acord, Scott Nichols, Teresa Parsons

Others: Donn Carnahan, Jeff Cook

**Mayor White:** This is a workshop tonight that's been scheduled, and we posted it with an agenda and everything in case we had a quorum which I think shortly that we'll find out that we don't. Then we'll talk about what we're going to do.

1. **CITY COUNCIL OPEN MEETING/ROLL-CALL ATTENDANCE:**

  A   Susan Case     A   Dani Martinez     X   Ken Thompson  
  X   Billy Galloska     X   Mayor Monty White

\*\*\*\*LET THE RECORD SHOW THAT SUSAN CASE AND DANI MARTINEZ ARE ABSENT\*\*\*\*

2. **ADOPTION of the AGENDAS:**

**WATER/SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE; WATER/SEWER BOND WORKSHOP:**

**Mayor White:** We can't even adopt an agenda. What we'll do is, we're just going to have a discussion. What I want to point out to everybody is that we can't pro or con. We can ask questions; we can't have a discussion or a debate about any issue and we cannot take a vote.

3. **DISCUSSION with Donn Carnahan on the Water/Sewer Infrastructure; Water/Sewer Bond Plan.**

**Carnahan:** We got together two weeks ago whenever it was and went through the facilities plant study and some of the options that were identified and what not and I've got those up here today, again. I've got a couple more hard copies if you guys want.

**Mayor White:** I know Christy will be involved in these numbers.

**Carnahan:** So, we started off it seemed like the focus was more on the water and the sewer there's need for both, but I wanted to start off with the water. So, we looked at there's scenarios one, two and three with different options. What I took away from the last meeting was to go through and refine some of the numbers and again these are old numbers, and we figure it's about a thirty percent or point three times these, if not more. It's tough to estimate right now. Things are crazy, some things you can't even get, and some things are not too bad. We can go through some of these things if you want, but also some of the cliff notes that I take away was that I got the sense that what we need to do is go to the community and present the needs that we have and gather their input and decide to go forward or not. And so, what I suggest is to give the city a little scope to do that effort. I would suggest potentially two meetings, one the first meeting would be to say here are the problems, here are the issues. What do you public dop you feel are the priorities and gather information from the community? Once we have that we can formulate maybe a recommended option with cost. And maybe I think mayor last time you said that maybe a couple options the Cadillac and the Chevy and the Yugo type versions or something like that and along

with the rates. Once we have that information then we can go to the funding agencies like DEQ and USDA and all those folks and figure out what kind of funding, and what kind of loans, what kind of principle forgiveness we can do. Cause right now there's just all kinds of different options and these are the kind of ranges of options and what not. That's an option we can do is have a couple public meetings, talk to funding agencies to see what's going on. We're obviously not going to make the bonding hearing this November of March. We're not going to make the next one I feel like, but the DEQ letters of interest are usually due in January of this year. That'd be important to get those letters of interest in and see what kind of award we're going to get. What DEQ is saying is that they have more money than they have in the past. In the past they haven't funded all the projects that got submitted and I think with the extra money they have this year they've been funding more so I think the time is good to submit to see what happens. Earlier we were talking about the infrastructure bill at the national level sounds like there's something that can happen with that. I think having our ducks in a row and going forward, I think the timing is as good as it's ever been.

**Mayor White:** Do you think there's any value, Donn in having an option that says we do nothing and show them what's going on?

**Carnahan:** Well, I mean the important thing, that is one of the options is to do nothing. Because if you don't pass a bond then you are basically doing nothing. So, ya.

**Mayor White:** We're collecting hundreds of thousands of dollars every year and all we're doing is sticking band aids on it. Scott fixed this, it breaks over here. He fixes that it breaks over there. We're chasing our....

**Galloska:** You're chasing your tail, for sure.

**Mayor White:** Well, maybe one option will be to just say if we don't do nothing this is what ....

**Thompson:** If we could show them the cost of doing nothing right now, what we're doing right now is costing us this much money.

**Mayor White:** It's a big budget.

**Thompson:** And there's no plus to it, basically.

**Mayor White:** You know I mean upgrading and everything surely there's a cost benefit to having, there's less maintenance on a new system, hopefully if we do it right.

**Carnahan:** That's true. That's a hard one to get ahold of and I think that that's Scott's expertise on how much time is spent fixing things and not doing other things. How many times did you have to repair a water line and how long did that take you?

**Mayor White:** Would you be here during those public meetings to give a presentation to ....?

**Carnahan:** Ya, what I envision like in the past, we can do an open house or maybe if you want we can do a presentation in the beginning.

**Mayor White:** I think we ought to call a workshop because a lot of people get a real sour face to their mouth because they don't feel in a workshop they get; I've got caught up before I was mayor of if it's a workshop how come I can't get some input to it? I don't have a problem with people coming in and saying have you ever thought about this, have you thought about that. I know there's always a danger when you open that up. You get the hot heads and everyone else that comes in here, but that's the mayor supposed to control the meeting. If the meetings get out of control, the mayor isn't running the meeting.

**Thompson:** You can always move it to an amount of time.

**Mayor White:** We could, if we come in here and there's a hundred people, we can limit it to two to three minutes. If we come in and there's no body then we can do it, but this is just a suggestion, we can't make any decisions tonight. That was a question I was asked; can we shape these meetings to make sure that we're capturing what the people want us to do? We're not just stuck, and this is the way it's got to be, right?

**Carnahan:** No, I've found that if you come in open ended and say, here's all the problems we've identified, here's some studies that have been done. You tell us what you think are the priorities that works as opposed to if we say, hey, here's our three options and we're going to go for a bond.

**Galloska:** Then they'd have no input.

**Carnahan:** Ya, then they'd say, you've already decided, and we haven't. We want ....

**Mayor White:** We've got a citizen here tonight that has more experience with the system than we'll ever have. I think that we should have a way to capture that valuable input.

**Carnahan:** I think that Jeff could be a valuable component to it. He can ....

**Acord:** So, you say back up powered generators on here. Do a scenario to where remember when we last power the other day and we only had twenty thousand gallons left in that tank and we only have one tank. So, did they see this is what's happening? Take pictures, show our headworks, this is what we do every time we have a big storm. This is what we have to deal with and then this is what we could have. To where we do a visual presentation.

**Mayor White:** I'm sure there's plenty of archived pictures of flooding.

**Galloska:** Well, not only that we can bring in all the different people that has something to do with that. I know you have your IT guy that had to do with that as well as Scott and the guys. There's a lot of fasciitis to it if they want to be involved in that. Talking to the public, they need to know, look it's not just going in there and flipping on a switch or have power. Once that happens there's a whole other thing that have to happen.

**Carnahan:** Right, I remember that Johnny had a slide show of things that went wrong. Hopefully there's some old remnants of pipe that you guys tore out. I envision an open house with some stations that are manned by myself, Scott and hopefully Jeff can be a part of it, and the mayor and council and everybody.

**Mayor White:** I welcome, if we can fill this room that'd make me happy.

**Carnahan:** And we typically have some comment sheets available so that they can see the displays, see the costs and they can give us comments like, ya that's great we want to do it or you guys are crazy and you do not have my support.

**Mayor White:** Usually what I've found people don't want anything until their toilets are flooding and the sewers coming back in their house, then it's all the sudden, why didn't you guys fix it?

**Galloska:** Well, that's why they need to see some of these pictures and some of this stuff torn out.

**Carnahan:** I mean all the infrastructure stuff is out of sight out of mind until something goes wrong. Because they don't know some of the time that you guys are out there fixing stuff.

**Mayor White:** They don't know what that pip looks like underground.

**Thompson:** And then we're drinking it.

**Acord:** One of the things that I'm coming across is that as we go into it and we talk to the citizens and the people in town is, it's like the JTS drain, it's like trying to explain to them we're one of the last

cities or smaller communities that still has our stormwater married with our wastewater. And they say oh, that doesn't make a big difference. Oh, yes it does.

**Mayor White:** Oh, ya it does.

**Acord:** And trying to explain to them in order, it's going to cost, it's a whole lot more than just putting in a little break around your drain. There's a whole lot more involved in it. So, where they have that knowledge behind before they make those rash decisions.

**Mayor White:** I think we have a lot of information and Donn's been good getting us numbers and we know that those numbers aren't cast in stone, it's your best estimate of what's going on right now. It might be bad timing on our part to try to do this stuff with prices so high, but it is the cards that are dealt.

**Galloska:** Right and who's to say it's going to go down? We don't know.

**Cook:** It never does. It'll drop but it aint going to go back to what it was.

**Thompson:** We have to sell that in fact this is their town. It's not our town, it's their town. Whatever happened here affects them basically.

**Mayor White:** Yep. I've had discussion with JTS with Jimmy down there and it's frustrating for me to find all this water in there and he understands it's a problem that we didn't create here, right now, but we're the ones that have to solve it. That's just the way it is. It wasn't even, when Jeff was here just a few mayors back, they inherited this problem from the previous. We've been kicking this thing down the road. Now we're sitting here and it's up to us to solve this thing. I think it's a perfect storm that we're at the right place at the right time now that the fundings there to do something significant. I think we ought to show no cost or do nothing or the next, and in that do nothing, I'd ask you Donn to show each year what we're spending now and we're not putting anything in the ground. We're just keeping our heads above water.

**Galloska:** Also, what happens when something does fail?

**Mayor White:** You know we got stung pretty good by DEQ been certain years ago when I first came in, we got whacked, but they were pretty nice to us. It only cost us four grand, but I guarantee you they're not going to be nice ....

**Thompson:** That's not where it started.

**Mayor White:** They said OK guys we can go with these violations here and you've got a plan to get out of it, but boy they could get pretty rough with us. They can come in and just redo what they want to do and hand us the bill. They can do that. We don't want to get there because citizens would have no ....

**Nichols:** That's going to happen, agree with the do nothing.

**Mayor White:** And if we go with the option of to do nothing and DEQ is going to come in here and do something.

**Galloska:** And they need to hear that, the citizens. I'm saying if they want to come in here.

**Nichols:** It's not a threatening type situation, it's just saying be very aware that if we go forward of doing absolutely nothing because of growth prices, impact fees, this is what this company will come in and say, but we'll fix it. But ...

**Mayor White:** I've never heard of them doing that, but they could. I think Flint Michigan they got a pretty good sized.

**Nichols:** Has DEQ with your experience with IRWA forced anyone to do something that they couldn't physically do?

**Cook:** I haven't seen it yet, but there's been talk on and usually that's when the city takes over and gets stuff done. I haven't gotten a chance to go through everything, but is this a planning study and everything?

**Carnahan:** It is exactly. One example would be just to run through this real quick. On this table eight dash one. The water to alternative we can take out the membrane replace so that would come out of this. We can take out the airport piping or not of that's going to be done separately. That would reduce it down to like four point six million, but then you times it by one point three cause of the cost increase and maybe a little more, you're back up to six million above that. Then you go down to what the fees, the rates might be so now your up in this six million and it results in about thirty dollars a month increase in this scenario. Scenario one was just a total loan and then scenario two was half loans and half grants which just had a different term and different interest. Anyway, it changes to like thirty dollars to fifteen dollars in there.

**Mayor White:** Would that be for each sewer and water?

**Carnahan:** This would be just option one for the water. And that includes the generators at the intake and the plant. It would be basically, this is the fire flow premise so we need place, we still have some two- and four-inch lines in the city it would be replacing those with eight-inch lines. Age and condition improvements are identified as pipes that are in poor condition or unknown. So, there's several hundred feet of those and that would take you to those six million dollars and what not. Those are the scenarios that we can go through. We can present to the folks and again it's a mismatch of whatever you want to do. The next scenario talks about adding a two hundred- and fifty-thousand-dollar storage tank to help with fore flows and the support that we don't meet fire flows in certain plots within the city.

**Cook:** That's line size, don't you think? When we did it originally between the storage we had, and I think it was the four-inch lines that was killing us.

**Mayor White:** We really should be looking at replacing ....

**Cook:** It's been a long time since I've looked at that book (inaudible).

**Carnahan:** There's tons of like, the next option is exactly what we just talked about by adding in two hundred and fifty thousand gallons storage reservoir and then you go up to option three is million-gallon reservoir and so on and so forth.

**Cook:** What we have left on the existing loan?

**Mayor White:** Jeff, if we increased, not to the million, but the other one two hundred and fifty thousand, would that be more than adequately be enough storage or should we be looking at bigger?

**Cook:** If you're going to build one, I wouldn't build anything smaller than what you've got.

**Mayor White:** What do we got?

**Carnahan:** Five hundred thousand.

**Cook:** If you do a two hundred and fifty thousand gallon, you're going to have to elevate it to half the pipe than what you've got now so you don't blow it. You'd have to have a million gallon.

**Carnahan:** That does make sense to have not have similar water reservoirs.

**Mayor White:** It be better to put a five hundred thousand.

**Carnahan:** And mostly that's for fire flow and we can look at the different scenarios. I think for the working operation ...

**Mayor White:** What's our average daily out put

**Nichols:** We're doing now that things are under control, three hundred thousand.

**Mayor White:** So, that'd be quite a bit of storage up there. I'm trying to keep from saying, well, I think we out to do that. That's just another option we should take a look at.

**Nichols:** We spoke and what it was a dollar fifty-one?

**Cook:** Well, it used to be, back your figures were a dollar a gallon.

**Carnahan:** I think it's what, two bucks now?

**Mayor White:** You can count it being about a million by the time we get everything done.

**Carnahan:** Ya if we do the five hundred thousand. It might not be quite that much.

**Cook:** With technologies out there now for building tanks are pretty impressive.

**Mayor White:** It's why we've got him; he needs to flush it. Even if you take that table and you run all those figures, to me it's doable for this town to have that bond.

**Cook:** The bottom line is what we faced and what we're going to face when we did the last sewer bond was the dollars per month. They really didn't care what you were doing they just wanted to know at the end of the day how much more it would cost them.

**Thompson:** For most of us on a set income, that's what's important.

**Mayor White:** Most everybody is on a set income in here so if we're talking thirty on water and fifteen on the sewer, pretty soon that's forty-five bucks a month right there.

**Galloska:** And we talked about it last time, we can't do both at the same time anyway, so we have to decide which one we want, which one is more important, priority for the city and go from there.

**Nichols:** The individual that was here last time said without an impact data we don't know what we're looking at.

**Carnahan:** Right, some of our sewer rates are pretty low compared to what the funding is going to require.

**Cook:** The rates here are way cheap.

**Galloska:** It did say our water was in range.

**Nichols:** But the sewer was off.

**Galloska:** It was way too low.

**Mayor White:** The council, we the city, elected to raise some rates. One of them was sewer and I think we raised basic water, not much and they come into effect the first. We're already out here gearing up the first billing cycle that goes out that it's going to be standing room only. I mean we're talking little tiny.

**Cook:** What is it four and a half or what?

**Mayor White:** Three percent. That was already done

**Acord:** So, has RCAC doing the rate study for sewer and stuff to .... Cause they do it for free.

**Carnahan:** Have us have some plug meetings and figure out what we're doing in the water and sewer and both, just the one and then talk about finances and doing a study, getting that nailed down a little more and just getting that figured out. I think it's nice to have some support there is some, but you know in the past things have fallen flat. We need to make sure we can go forward or else we're wasting everybody's time.

**Thompson:** That's the thing we got to figure out everybody's, anybody's going to be excited about it.

**Galloska:** And this is why we need them in the meeting to get them involved as the mayor was saying.

**Thompson:** We're just sitting here talking to ourselves and not accomplishing anything.

**Carnahan:** Right and we can go through all kinds of scenarios, we can do that if you want but I don't know that's too constructive until we figure out if there's a little support, a lot of support.

**Galloska:** I think we need to make a plan of setting up a meeting like you were talking about, with the pictures, with the tables set around explaining the stuff out. Let them see what we're looking at.

**Cook:** That sewer bond, we did some camera work and we had people in here against it and one of the guys, I just happened to have a picture right in front of his house and showed him the main or lack of main it was just the hole ground that was there, and he changed his whole tune.

**Mayor White:** You know Jeff has probably some good insight and what he told us was basically, we've got to have numbers for them it says if you go with option one it'll cost you twelve bucks a month on your water bill. If you go with option five it's going to cost you thirty bucks. You know I'm in a position where I just don't get, and I'm sorry, I don't connect with thirteen to fourteen dollars a month or thirty dollars a month on a basic bill. It doesn't mean anything to me at all. It doesn't affect my lifestyle at all, but I do get what Kenny's telling me, it does affect some people a lot. Cause their lifestyle goes up or down depending on their basic water bill, their basic sewer bill.

**Thompson:** Some people don't even make it to the end of the month with the money they've got.

**Mayor White:** I've got to watch myself, so I don't get too callous about thirty dollars. We got a lot of folks out there that this is really, really important.

**Cook:** That three percent that you're talking about, you've got to go that. I know it's painful, but you've got to do everything. And that's why we ended up with twelve fifty because I couldn't convince the predecessor to do that every year.

**Mayor White:** The first year we raised it I think three percent then we got caught up on other issues and I just can't ... it went on the back burner, and I didn't catch it.

**Cook:** If you've got a budget time, you don't have to have a special meeting for it, it's part of your budget.

**Acord:** Would we be able to say, when we do the public meeting, say ok so, safety purposes so we don't get hammered by DEQ. This, this and this are top priorities we need to get it complete. Will we be able to piece all that out?

**Mayor White:** I think we can say that Christy from my standpoint, I'm just talking about me and my family. I probably understood, you know when they used to talk to me about it when I was just, I wasn't the mayor, that stuff just rolled off my back. Well, that's what you guys are there for, if you're telling me, you need this sewer upgrade and you need a ten-million-dollar bond, I'm good with it. I think that a lot of that, the safety end of it people don't get, they don't care. I mean they flush their toilet, water goes away, fills back up, and we do it again. It's when the sewer backs up into the house that it gets your attention.

**Galloska:** I think Donn's got a point though, we've got to show them what's wrong, where it's at now and we show them what it's going to cost per month, and you've got to make that decision based on both things.

**Mayor White:** And I think it'll be more decisional more economically with what Jeff said if we have some of these lines camera'd and we can have it on the video loop and we can just loop it during the whole meeting and they can sit there and watch this and we can say this is on Custer Street that shows a sewer line that's this big and a water line this big but there's no water going through it.

**Galloska:** And some of those cutoffs that they brought in here on the table.

**Mayor White:** Have some of those on display and tell them where it came from, this came off the pipe on Third Street on the one hundred block on Third Avenue.

**Nichols:** These are your sewer lines and just past that is a root waiting to go through the next cycle and we can pause it and have still pictures ....

**Cook:** Still pictures and I'd put the address.

**Mayor White:** That's why we've got you at the workshop. We've got to get to the people it does affect.

**Thompson:** There's something here we don't really know. There's a lot of new people here, we don't know what their feelings are and stuff.

**Mayor White:** You know the last house that I heard of on the market advertised for two days and they had multiple offers over what they listed.

**Thompson:** My cousins house was on four days, and he had four offers and he took the highest.

**Mayor White:** I guess my point is, you're right Kenny, there's people moving in here at a different level than what we've ever seen before. They're coming out of California, and they've have money.

**Thompson:** California, Oregon all those people are moving in, and they have more money than the average Joe Blow around here, probably.

**Cook:** Donn on the water side have you heard anything about money coming available with changes (inaudible)?

**Carnahan:** I haven't heard anything recently that we're talking about the infrastructure national one that there's probably going to be some ....

**Cook:** I know that there's major issues with changing main lines (inaudible).

**Mayor White:** We should be addressing some of that. I appreciate all of the hard work that's been done in the past. It does give us a place to start. If we had to start just from scratch, we'd really be in trouble. It's good that Jeff and Donn have a place for us to start. I think it helps the council. I have to reemphasize; this is a council meeting you guys have to make that decision.

**Galloska:** We can't make a decision tonight; we still need to (inaudible).

**Carnahan:** Jeff, in the previous sewer water bond did it go to a bond vote or judicial confirmation?

**Cook:** They were vote, our meeting was when we did our water plant there was the first one that was five hundred thousand and we did a million and those were both bumping ninety percent and I think the sewer bond was right in there.

**Carnahan:** That's encouraging.

**Cook:** It is and it's the people that can't afford it that are voting for it, it's our seniors. They're the ones that come out and vote.

**Mayor White:** I think the town would not just vote any bond that we floated, but I think if we got together and gave them good information and acted like we knew what we were doing, I think they'd support us. But I have got to tell you that I've had nothing, but a negative reaction. Kenny seen the reaction we got when we put some numbers together, Christy remember that?

**Acord:** Uh mmmm.

**Mayor White:** My administration almost came to an end, and I hadn't even got started. There is that negative out there, but it's our job to tell them what we're doing.

**Galloska:** We have to put it out there for them to understand, to see what the deal is and they have to make a decision and see what they want then we can move forward.

**Thompson:** Actually, that's how we passed the bond for the new junior high. We spent like forever educating the public what the need was, what the kids are doing, how it all worked, and it passed without any problem at all. And it's one of those you had to have ....

**Mayor White:** Sixty-six and a third.

**Parsons:** To answer your question Jeff, the water bond has thirteen more years ending in September of two thousand thirty-four. The sewer bond has sixteen more years ending in six of twenty thirty-seven.

**Mayor White:** What do we do if we have outstanding balances like that is it lumped into the bond, just make one payment or does that bond just stays on?

**Thompson:** They're separate.

**Cook:** The sewer one we redid through the bond bank, the waters still through RD?

**Parsons:** It says Sun West Bank. It was redone in two thousand eighteen.

**Carnahan:** I think they refinanced it.

**Acord:** I have a question, when you look up there at probable costs and you look at Idaho plan and you look at the airport piping, there's two things that are going to benefit specific people. Have we reached out to them to see if there's any possible way, they're going to be able to help us with this?

**Cook:** Every time I see the plan it ticks me off. Cause that was all bought and set out there and it was before, it was right at the tail end of when I first started (inaudible) then the city never held him to it to get it in. All that material sat out on the waste farm.

**Mayor White:** Was that the proposed project that you'd have them in there, but you'd run the water out here?

**Cook:** That was just their fire stretch.

**Thompson:** There's nothing out there they can actually put a building out, I'm thinking anymore, is there?

**Acord:** No.

**Cook:** You've got one fire hydrant right there on the back side of Wills' corrals that's all the six-inch main. I should say there's one, you got another one by the cogemics coming off of the ten inch main, but it's far enough away, it ain't gonna ....

**Mayor White:** What's the minimum diameter of a fire hydrant that we can hook into?

**Cook:** Six inches is the smallest you can hook into.

**Mayor White:** And this plan that you have, Donn it has the fire upgrades?

**Carnahan:** Anything that has a two and a four inch is going to upgrade to an eight inch.

**Mayor White:** I think that's an important part.

**Carnahan:** And of course, we can tweak it if it is accessible, if you want to do something different there's some wiggle room to modify the project.

**Mayor White:** Scott, I know this is probably, you haven't been here long enough to know, do you know where all these under sized fire hydrants are?

**Nichols:** I know a member on staff that knows exactly where they are. The fire chief knows where they're all at.

**Carnahan:** So, the basic fire loop improvements pretty much that's the upgrade from the twos and fours to eights. If you go down to the age and condition improvements are anything that's listed in the report as poor or unknow.

**Mayor White:** Are those prioritized, Donn?

**Carnahan:** They're there not lumped all together. I can go to the table that supports this that has the fee, footage and different things.

**Mayor White:** I was just wondering if the council decided we can do everything but the airport loop, we want to knock that off, they could do that right?

**Carnahan:** Ya, it's a shopping list. Like I said the water treatment alternatives are already out because you replaced the membranes last year tow years ago. That lowers the cost down. Then we'd increase it for todays cost and it goes back up a bit.

**Mayor White:** It's not on there right now?

**Carnahan:** It is. The water treatment service, that seven hundred thousand ....

**Mayor White:** That can go away.

**Carnahan:** That goes away, and we can decide if we want to take out the airport piping or not, we've got the design done and we can talk about that too. The city was going to do that themselves. If they're going to do it, we can take this off if not maybe we leave it on.

**Acord:** That's the Gem grant that I'm doing.

**Cook:** The water treatment services was that just membranes, did that have a pump replacement ....

**Carnahan:** I think that was just the membranes. I can go back and look at it if you want.

**Cook:** (inaudible).

**Carnahan:** I brushed up on it real quick with everything, but I think it was membranes in there. There was some talk about a chlorine contact chamber and some things, but ....

**Thompson:** I thought you've done some other work besides the membranes in there.

**Carnahan:** Pumps and ....

**Mayor White:** Like the membranes we had to take one set out and put one in then get them up and running and shut down the other trains. Correct me if I'm wrong, we got capacity down there for two more trains.

**Cook:** Everything in the plant is designed for two mg, you just have one mg.

**Mayor White:** So, we've got a lot of capacity.

**Cook:** You'd have to throw another pipe in there (inaudible). We were pretty lucky that we got the extra basins put in.

**Mayor White:** It wouldn't be a good idea to build something that you know you're going to have to replace, but you find that in roads and everything else. They actually need in ten years four lanes, so they build one.

**Carnahan:** Eventually you're going to need it.

**Mayor White:** Ya.

**Cook:** So, Donn you think there's a way to instead of having them choose. Here's option one this may be whole gambit, here's option two is what the city sees is the priority, I would scale back I wouldn't go forever. I'd maybe have four options or maybe just three.

**Carnahan:** We could do nothing at three options and at three we could increment them. The question is if we do just that are people going to think well you've already decided what you're going to do, and my inputs not needed and you're not listening to me.

**Galloska:** I think that's why that has to go to the second meeting and put the options up there and you tell me (inaudible/coughing).

**Mayor White:** And maybe so they feel like they have input is they can have option five can be Joe Blow comes in and says, here I've studied this is what I think we do. I think you ought to have that.

**Carnahan:** Ya, I'm not sure how fancy we want to get. We've had some other things where if you pick a budget like two million or five million or whatever, you give them fake money and you say, you've got this much to spend. We've got these ten projects you tell me by putting your money in or give me just a sticker. You put so many stickers on which one I mean that's not fancy.

**Cook:** We did a similar thing with transportation.

**Mayor White:** The federal government uses stickers all the times on alternatives.

**Carnahan:** So, we're just doing, where's the support at.

**Mayor White:** Then they feel like they got, you give them some stickers and you say you've only got so many stickers and here's all the stuff we need to do then they go up there and choose and put their stickers on that.

**Galloska:** Then you see how many there are supporting in what area.

**Mayor White:** It does give you an idea of where people's minds are.

**Thompson:** That would be what most affects them.

**Carnahan:** It's biased, but if we give them a certain amount of money then that causes them to kind of pause and have to think through it like, ewe is it this or is it that. Where stickers they just go, it's just kind of boop.

**Mayor White:** I like that. You tell us what your priorities are.

**Acord:** Stickers are worse?

**Mayor White:** I've never seen it done with money, but I worked for the Federal Government. We did pick our own options because you know we're talking about timber. How much timber do you want to cut? It seemed to work.

**Cook:** We had three colors and they had so many of each, first priority, second priority, third priority and they can go around and stick those on.

**Mayor White:** Whatever you think Donn would be a good way for you to get the information out there.

**Carnahan:** What I can do is I can go back and put together some ideas and costs. Do we want to do one meeting or two or kind of ....?

**Mayor White:** We're not going to make a decision.

**Carnahan:** Oh no, I can present a couple of options and you can say if you like it or not.

**Mayor White:** I don't want to get crossed wires with open meetings.

**Carnahan:** It's always up to you guys, you'll have to approve it anyway.

**Mayor White:** It'll have to come back for approval. I just didn't want to get into, we just made a decision here.

**Carnahan:** No, I'll just give you the different scenarios.

**Mayor White:** That's a good discussion, anything else, Donn that you think we've missed or ....

**Carnahan:** No, we were going to talk about sewer, but we got the same story here. Sewer, there's more options. There's more to pick from and to choose from.

**Mayor White:** I'd sure like to see we can get something done with that storm water.

**Carnahan:** Here's again option one. It's that pump station enforcement main down by Lincoln.

**Mayor White:** Is that where water settles too?

**Cook:** Yes, right there by Ed Stone's place there's four storm drains in that intersection they all dump into the sanitary sewer.

**Carnahan:** This report identifies putting in pump station just north of there, there's a vacant lot and pumping it to the creek fifteen hundred feet to the west. There's some issues there to get it all done, but there's that and then there's obviously the videoing and cleaning the system, the lift station by the park. It's failed and it's working but failing. There's no scada there's no

**Mayor White:** What's our alarm system, the people that live next to it?

**Nichols:** The alarm system is the people who live over there.

**Carnahan:** This is no different for flow meters, grinders that work, we talked about that. I think Scott, three of the aerators had burned out cause stuff gets in the aerators.

**Nichols:** All three of them have all been taken.

**Mayor White:** They're working now?

**Nichols:** No because they have to do a seepage test.

**Carnahan:** Here's the one scenario and again about a thirty percent increase in these costs.

**Mayor White:** That isn't too bad there. We could do almost the whole project if that's what the bottom line's going to be.

**Carnahan:** That option then we stack on if we want to go on and replace, so then the collection system, there are problems and that's where the big chunk starts to add up. Go up pretty quickly there.

**Mayor White:** Can we hold that right there? Scott, if you looked up on that right now what would be your, of course you'd want to do it all. But is that grinder and headworks most important part. Is that a real important part of it or is it all pretty much ....

**Nichols:** It works hand in hand with the sludge removal, don't know too much about that rock media at the RI basins, the storm water pump station would be huge.

**Carnahan:** And one thing to note about that report is if we can divert that storm water out of the collection system, the collection systems good for thirty or forty years there's a pretty big bang for the buck as far as capacity for the ....

**Cook:** It wouldn't have the problems if they (inaudible).

**Mayor White:** Refresh my memory Scott, if we got to stay to the water side or the sewer side which is more important?

**Nichols:** My personal opinion would be the water. The safe clean water, that's the reason why I'm here.

**Mayor White:** Would you agree with that Jeff?

**Cook:** You ain't got water, you've got nothing.

**Mayor White:** You as an engineer?

**Carnahan:** I thought this over and I agree, if you don't have water to drink or flush your toilet ...

**Cook:** You can have the prettiest water lines, but if you can't flush them out what good are they?

**Carnahan:** That's kind of why I started with the water in the first place.

**Mayor White:** So, the decision that the council will have to make at a future meeting is are we just going to go to the water side or are we going to go to the sewer side and that'd be your guys' decision. We can put this sewer stuff of until however ...

**Nichols:** We can table it for a little bit, but as those individuals mentioned before we're not going to be successful in getting a pump for the system cause the sewer rates are way too low.

**Galloska:** So, we have to work on that.

**Cook:** You can be bringing that up while you're working on the other. Some of that, you might find that you can fund internal.

**Mayor White:** I was just looking at that.

**Cook:** If I had to prioritize the things up top, the first thing I'd kick out of there is the smallest one being the flow meter. You can base it off of what's coming in and everyone's fine with that cause you're usually reporting higher goals than what you're actually setting.

**Acord:** And I can actually get a grant for a pump station (inaudible/coughing) smaller town have not done that yet. That's what I can base that off of and get a CDBG grant to help us with that.

**Mayor White:** And of course, the removal of the sludge would be a very important thing even if we did that internally.

**Cook:** We need to talk to (inaudible) and get him over here to sludge the sludge. I had it done and I was going to run that bio stuff for awhile and check it again.

**Nichols:** The influent flow meter improvements that's already happened so that can be taken off of the list. It has a brand new one in it right now. Video clean the entire collection system probably at the top of this, that gives us an idea where we have fault, what we don't know we don't know. That scada system for the wastewater facility would be an awesome thing to have.

**Cook:** On the RI Basin media is that the wash?

**Carnahan:** I think backup at the rock, it's just a replacement.

**Cook:** When we took that out at the flat between where the primary (inaudible), all that is stock piled right there. It can be washed and put back in, so there's something to keep in mind.

**Nichols:** We have it on hand we just need to clean it.

**Mayor White:** If we went the sewer route the council could come in and cut that list down if they chose to.

**Carnahan:** Then option three gets into more of a different headworks, more of a, that's a pretty big-ticket item but it's kind of what most plants have.

**Galloska:** If I recall from the last meeting it had something to do with electronics being out in the weather if that's not done.

**Nichols:** If we don't have a building to out them in then the headworks, the collections area if we could have a way to collect it, grind it, get it removed, that's less material that goes into the primary, it all works hand in hand.

**Cook:** Did they mention the drain on that on Lincoln?

**Carnahan:** No, just the Lincoln and Cleveland.

**Cook:** Right across from where that big pond is, there's a drain there that goes into the sewer too and collects a lot of water.

**Nichols:** Ya, quickly. Last year's big storm we pulled up to that location not knowing exactly where that drain was at opened the doors and water came into the cab of the truck.

**Cook:** Whatever you do if it's puddled up on there and on Cleveland, don't open them up at the same time. Otherwise, it'll go out the manholes at Gibbs.

**Nichols:** That's another thing that we need to have, us in this building and I don't know if the public needs to know it, but they probably need to know it, it's not a good thing to have the contents in the sewer get on the ground. There's no way you're going to sift the bad from the good it's going to get on the ground and get (inaudible).

**Mayor White:** Basically, when we get a quorum together, in a little while you guys are going to have to decide water or sewer. I think that's your next. That's a big decision don't you Donn?

**Carnahan:** Ya, that would be the question. We'd just present the one option or the sewer or do we just present a case for both of them just so they understand.

**Nichols:** Do a case for both water and sewer, but I mean I'm just going back on what the individuals said at the first meeting. We currently aren't sitting in a comfortable position right now to ask for money to help us with the sewer side of it.

**Carnahan:** Right, but if you raised your rates to what they said, then they would fund it. They won't fund it unless you get your rates up.

**Nichols:** Where we're at now to increase it would be a huge jump now.

**Carnahan:** Right cause we're like eighteen nineteen-month base rate for sewer now.

**Parsons:** Starting October first, sewer base rate is going to be nineteen forty-nine and water base rate will be forty-two fifty-two.

**Nichols:** They wanted to see twenty-five to thirty on your sewer before they would assist. Outside looking in, I would start with the water slowly bring the sewer up as we're working on the water to get it to where we can have some assistance because as you just saw the sewer is no where near dramatic as the water side. When you can flip to a screen and comfortably say, oh we can fund that right now, that's not a priority.

**Galloska:** That's not a bonding priority.

**Mayor White:** I think in the budget you'll see a few minutes, but I think the budget this year we brought over two hundred and fifty thousand for the ....

**Nichols:** The dredging, the seepage test and things like that. We kind of brought that over for that. We kind of started to see that come down the pipeline.

**Mayor White:** We started seeing that when we were kind of having some problems. We figured we'd run into that the fiscal year. So, what will happen if we spend it this fiscal year because it's in the budget then of course it's going to show in the new budget, but we just won't spend it. In other words, we took it out of fund balance we just won't have to touch it. But if it runs into the fiscal year then we have to reopen the budget. So, we carried the two-fifty for and maybe added a little bit, I can't remember. I think we put that SARS money....

**Parsons:** In CARES? There was one hundred and forty total.

**Mayor White:** And I put half of that in water and half of that in sewer. So, we have a little bit more right there if we carry that forward. And you can always open the budget, it's just we don't like to.

**Carnahan:** That's a decision we can't make right now. We have the plans and specs ready to go for the lagoon dredging. We'll need some direction if we want to go ahead and put that out now to see what happens or not. Part of that is the way we have that set up is the dredging and disposal of the sludge one of the contractors said he'll put it in sacks, leave it there and then the city can take care of it in the future when it's dried out in a year or so. We could bid it out as an alternative, the dredging putting it in whatever disposal container whatever we want and then later on that puts more stuff on the city.

**Mayor White:** I think that's a decision for the council. If they want us to go forward.

**Carnahan:** It's better if the contractor was in control of all of it and got done with it, but ....

**Nichols:** Dry it on your land, just get it out of ours.

**Carnahan:** We have had somebody with a land apply, but I don't think there's anybody close by who would want to do that.

**Nichols:** A land plain.

**Carnahan:** A land apply.

**Cook:** Anderson's place would be ideal. Around the airport.

**Mayor White:** Heck I might talk to McCallum; I don't think he'd care.

**Cook:** Any way you look at it you'd have to go down Madison.

**Mayor White:** This is just my thought, is that we would need to move forward if we could get it done this fiscal year or shortly into the next fiscal year, that's where we should be.

**Carnahan:** We can always put it out and then do the alternatives or the base bids.

**Cook:** Do you have the figures to know how much sludge is there?

**Carnahan:** We had just a lump sum and I think we'd given up some average depths and I can't remember where we got that from. I think this report had some stuff in it and we added some to it.

**Acord:** I was just thinking about that other slide. If anyone sees that one point one two million that's an immediate red flag for me, but if I saw it broken down not an over all figure, but actually broken down, with pictures and then we went in and we can pick and choose priorities and we can do alternative methods of funding like Genesis the fire safety loop. We're fixing to go out, we're willing to put something in. It's up to you also because it's going to benefit him, it's not going to benefit us as much as it's going to benefit him. The airport situation trying to see if we can figure out a bunch of people who use the airport the most if they're able to put something in, even if it is helping someone install it or using equipment or doing something like that. Something to buy in for the people it's going to affect the most. Because it's just like King Hill Irrigation, just exactly the same scenario as King Hill Irrigation, Bliss needs help, why should I pay for it, it doesn't affect me. That's where you see it like that, there's got to be some fighting from the people it's going to affect the most.

**Nichols:** If we broke that down to, adding to what Christy is talking about, when I was with the district, we broke down every single penny of their hard-earned dollar when they paid for their water. It was a pie chart that showed this amount of money went to fuel or broke it down that way they were like oh, I didn't know there was electricity involved.

**Acord:** So, you have to break it down to the minuet thing for people to register, oh, ya right. You all put stuff in the paper.

**Nichols:** Some of that wording that it might not reach most.

**Mayor White:** I think Donn would show both. The breakdown that he had, and this would be another.

**Carnahan:** This is the summary, but we can break it down even further if we thought we needed to. I think Christy's point is one big number is a lot of numbers, but if you look at the twenty things that go into it you think oh, that's ....

**Acord:** When you say a total cost of improvements, that's my immediate response. What is that minuet at the bottom that people can't read needs to be large enough for people to read. That's the very first thing you look at. What's in bold.

**Thompson:** When it's in bold you say this is important, I need to read this.

**Acord:** But if you go up you look and you see, breaking it down, we do it at school when we teach our kids and teach your kids at school. As a retired teacher anything that I want them to learn, I make it larger, I don't make it bold, etc. and then at the total end of it the bold stuff is smaller, so you have to pay attention to that part.

**Nichols:** I think most of them probably don't want to see the pictures of what probably goes on out there. Out of sight out of mind.

**Mayor White:** It sounds to me like I have a little bit of a misconception because I think Jeff kind of cleared that up for us. They've been pretty successful getting these bonds. However, you guys did that we need to tier off from that.

**Galloska:** Not only with these meeting some of these pictures can put into a pamphlet that we can hand out so maybe if somebody can't make a meeting, we can definitely ....

**Mayor White:** Jeff, let go back and capture what worked. What worked for you?

**Cook:** Well, we did a meeting and whatever and just painted the picture.

**Mayor White:** Did you have good turn out?

**Cook:** You never have a good turn out because the people that really care are the only ones who really show up.

**Mayor White:** Where do you think the ones that didn't show up, how did they get the information so they could support it? Was it just word of mouth or...?

**Cook:** I think they spent a couple lunches at the senior center and talked to those people.

**Carnahan:** You go to the high school football game, and you take a couple boards off to the side and you got a lot of people out there and half time they come over and see it.

**Cook:** When we did the water treatment plant bond, we made a thousand-gallon tank, and we had the dollar fifty-five and we had a Culligan jar and five-gallon jug with and down to the twenty-ounce bottle, so they had a good visual. I think pictures sell them we're not making this up this is front of Joe's house over on Cleveland or wherever.

**Mayor White:** We've got quite a bit of room in here that we can do it inside.

**Nichols:** Design kind of like a job fair.

**Mayor White:** Uh mmm, I think we'll have the department heads in and of course the council. Donn will be here of course and then the council's going to have to make a decision at probably our next meeting if they want to concentrate on the water or just kind of do the sewer as we can budget for it.

**Nichols:** Talk with my people to see if we can get a IRWA station and drinking water distribution station that way the expertise can answer questions that I might not know the answer to.

**Acord:** Bruneau just did some of this. Do you want me to call on them on some of this?

**Cook:** I mean they have a lot of nay sayers down there, but when they had to they won't have a choice. You're talking the wastewater, right?

**Acord:** Ya.

**Nichols:** Where's our nearest community that's in the same scenario we're in? That would have a water treatment plant, an open sewer lagoon.

**Cook:** Water treatment plant is probably going to be the hardest to fins. Everyone else uses ground water. But their distribution systems are on the same level. Everybody's struggling.

**Mayor White:** Sounds like a lot of money when they talk about it in the federal system, but by the time it trickles to us, what we get a hundred and forty thousand, that was our first pay. We'll get another hundred and forty, I guess. Then you think a hundred and forty, whoa. But you need four point eight million.

**Nichols:** One of those line items would swallow that up.

**Cook:** Glenns Ferry is ahead of the curve in a lot of ways from what I've seen.

**Mayor White:** Sometimes I think that, that plant down there is a money pit. Sitting in that office I think geez dang thing down there is just gobbling up money. Then I think well no we've got an unlimited supply of water, basically. As long as the Snake River doesn't go down to the size of King Hill. We have a good water right, a good plant, we're producing great water. Scott gives me an update on our figures all the time and of course we have Jeff looking over our shoulder to keep us going right. Don't you feel pretty confident Jeff.

**Cook:** Oh ya. I go to communities two three times our size and they don't have meters and they start talking, well, we're losing water because we're bringing in four hundred thousand gallons a day and we're only seeing a hundred thousand in our wastewater plant. You don't know what

everyone's using at their house. Having those meters are a cash register, that's one way to look at them.

**Nichols:** What we would like to do as something to throw out to the council is at the end of that bill once a month is that dollar added to it for improvements on water meters. However, many used in town, six hundred plus that's six hundred dollars a month and you put it to the side for water. That's just one dollar from each household. It's not just the water meters that are being improved its reading meters, the efficiency of reading meter, less repeats.

**Mayor White:** We don't want to go there. It's 6:48, we've got a meeting at seven. I say we go ahead and quit for the night. Want to have another meeting to start?

**Thompson:** At some point we've got to decide on the time we're going to do it but get it out.

**Galloska:** We've got to get it advertised out there.

**Carnahan:** I need to get you guys a scope of kind of what we plan on doing and what the associated cost.

**Thompson:** We can't make that decision tonight cause we're ....

**Mayor White:** We don't have a quorum.

**Nichols:** I wrote down the O&M report of what it costs the city to make repairs.

**Galloska:** Can we put it on the agenda to talk about that stuff next meeting?

**Mayor White:** We can have another workshop if you want to talk through it then as long as we have a quorum, you guys could even make that decision as long as we advertise it as a discussion action item. Then it would stay within that action item.

**Galloska:** I don't think we need the full time, do we in setting up a meeting. I think we can add it to our regular agenda.

**Mayor White:** Ok. We can do that.

#### 4. ADJOURN

**Parsons:** 6:50pm

Approved by the City Council: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Monty R. White - Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa Parsons - Clerk/Treasurer