

Audio file

[09152026_sc.MP3](#)

Transcript

00:00:00 Speaker 1

I'd like to call to order the special call meeting for September the 15th, 2026 at 5 P.m.

00:00:12 Speaker 1

Invocation.

00:00:18 Speaker 2

Heavenly Father, Lord, for another day we say thank you.

00:00:22 Speaker 2

Thank you for life.

00:00:24 Speaker 2

Thank you for liberty.

00:00:26 Speaker 2

Pray that you would grant us the wisdom that we need tonight

00:00:30 Speaker 2

And help us to be able to communicate freely, share our thoughts and ideas, respect one another, and do what's best for all involved, for the city, and for everyone here.

00:00:42 Speaker 2

In Jesus' name.

00:00:44 Speaker 3

Amen.

00:00:46 Speaker 2

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God.

00:00:56 Speaker 3

Indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

00:01:03 Speaker 1

Ms.

00:01:03 Speaker 1

Kelly, roll call.

00:01:04 Speaker 4

Mayor Shaw.

00:01:05 Speaker 2

Here.

00:01:05 Speaker 4

Alderman Senniff.

00:01:07 Speaker 2

Here.

00:01:07 Speaker 4

Alderman Gregory.

00:01:08 Speaker 5

Here.

00:01:08 Speaker 4

Alderman Martin.

00:01:09 Speaker 4

Here.

00:01:10 Speaker 4

Vice Mayor Gilmore.

00:01:11 Speaker 6

Here.

00:01:11 Speaker 4

Attorney Russell Freeman.

00:01:12 Speaker 7

Here.

00:01:16 Speaker 1

Okay, citizens comments.

00:01:19 Speaker 6

Of course.

00:01:20 Speaker 3

I don't believe it.

00:01:22 Speaker 6

Anything, Mr.

00:01:23 Speaker 6

Mayor, Alderman Martin, Alderman Gilmore, Alderman Senniff, Alderman Gregory.

00:01:30 Speaker 6

Kelly, and Mr.

00:01:32 Speaker 6

Freeman.

00:01:33 Speaker 6

My name is John Neely.

00:01:34 Speaker 6

I live in 2021 Rebecca Drive, and I'm across .

00:01:38 Speaker 6

I do want to ask a question about item five on new business, subparagraph eight, discussion of option plan for Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System.

00:01:47 Speaker 6

I would ask that since this is a election year, that you postpone any and all

00:01:56 Speaker 6

votes on spending any more money the rest of this year until January 1st of 2027 to give us an opportunity to even find out we're going to have new people on the board next year instead of trying to rush through all of these things now before the election.

00:02:11 Speaker 6

And I appreciate your time.

00:02:13 Speaker 6

So that's my request.

00:02:14 Speaker 6

Appreciate it.

00:02:14 Speaker 6

Thank you.

00:02:15 Speaker 1

Thank you.

00:02:17 Speaker 1

Anyone else?

00:02:20 Speaker 1

Okay.

00:02:22 Speaker 1

The first item up is the discussion

00:02:25 Speaker 1

of option plans for the Tennessee Consolidated retirement system um this is being put on hold this evening because all have not come in as of yet so we're going to push that off until the next meeting and have the gentleman come in and give us a complete presentation.

00:02:48 Speaker 6

Are those numbers for the five and senior that you just put in last special meeting yes okay yep.

00:02:53 Speaker 7

Will that be about special meeting or-- Yes.

00:02:56 Speaker 1

It'll be about special meeting October the 20th at 5 p.m.

00:03:03 Speaker 2

Now what do we have?

00:03:04 Speaker 2

What do we have at least on hand right now?

00:03:06 Speaker 2

I know we're not discussing it, but.

00:03:09 Speaker 1

Right now we've got a 25 and 15, three different plans.

00:03:13 Speaker 4

It's an all, it's not a limited, it's an all or 15.

00:03:18 Speaker 1

Okay, yep.

00:03:21 Speaker 1

Okay, so that's what we put off.

00:03:22 Speaker 8

We don't have anything for just a straight going forward plan on the.

00:03:29 Speaker 3

The numbers are coming in.

00:03:31 Speaker 8

No, no, no backup.

00:03:35 Speaker 1

5, 10, 15, 25.

00:03:36 Speaker 7

Well,.

00:03:41 Speaker 6

Okay.

00:03:43 Speaker 1

Okay.

00:03:44 Speaker 6

Can't really hear what's going on.

00:03:46 Speaker 6

But you're saying that you're off on all of that?

00:03:50 Speaker 1

Yes, until next month.

00:03:52 Speaker 6

That's that \$600,000 thing.

00:03:54 Speaker 1

Well, that's what was put out there that we were looking at a \$600,000.

00:04:00 Speaker 1

That's one of many options.

00:04:03 Speaker 1

We're reviewing all the options available.

00:04:07 Speaker 8

Except for the one that is just going forward.

00:04:10 Speaker 1

Correct.

00:04:11 Speaker 6

So that's on hold.

00:04:12 Speaker 7

Yes.

00:04:13 Speaker 8

All of them are on hold?

00:04:15 Speaker 8

Yes.

00:04:16 Speaker 8

All of them.

00:04:17 Speaker 8

Even the ones in the next meeting.

00:04:19 Speaker 1

No.

00:04:20 Speaker 1

No, the next meeting we're going to discuss it and see if we can move something possibly forward.

00:04:25 Speaker 2

Not tonight.

00:04:26 Speaker 1

Correct.

00:04:27 Speaker 1

We're not doing anything on it tonight.

00:04:30 Speaker 8

Okay.

00:04:30 Speaker 2

Since we don't have all the plans, you don't want to discuss any of it.

00:04:33 Speaker 1

Correct.

00:04:34 Speaker 8

Okay.

00:04:35 Speaker 7

And I presume, Miss Bart, just going forward was going a little regarded half.

00:04:43 Speaker 7

Yeah, that could continue regardless.

00:04:46 Speaker 8

No, what I'm asking is starting them on a TCRS plan going forward hasn't been put before the board.

00:05:00 Speaker 8

Not just what they had before, which was a simple IRA.

00:05:08 Speaker 8

So we're not going to discuss just going forward.

00:05:11 Speaker 7

With the day one implementation.

00:05:14 Speaker 8

Correct.

00:05:15 Speaker 7

I think that could probably be added of the request of the gentleman or whomever's coming to speak.

00:05:21 Speaker 1

I can reach out to him.

00:05:25 Speaker 8

Thank you.

00:05:28 Speaker 1

Okay.

00:05:30 Speaker 1

Next item up is ordinance discussion on ordinance 2026-105.

00:05:38 Speaker 1

This is an ordinance amending ordinance 2025-105.

00:05:43 Speaker 1

which is an ordinance establishing sewer rates for collection and treatment of sewage for the city of Ridgetown.

00:05:52 Speaker 1

As everyone's well aware, we passed it first reading last month, but I think there were some questions that came up that we need to talk about and see what we need to do potentially moving forward.

00:06:08 Speaker 8

You mean at the last meeting we discussed that there were other

00:06:12 Speaker 8

things coming up on it.

00:06:14 Speaker 1

No.

00:06:14 Speaker 8

When did we discuss it then?

00:06:17 Speaker 8

We just said we discussed it.

00:06:18 Speaker 1

That's what I just brought up.

00:06:19 Speaker 8

Oh, now we're going to discuss it.

00:06:21 Speaker 8

Okay, thank you.

00:06:25 Speaker 1

I think John, you had some questions.

00:06:29 Speaker 2

In regards to the sewer bypass, I understand the need for the infrastructure.

00:06:35 Speaker 2

You've got sewer mains that run all throughout the city and I think currently there are

00:06:41 Speaker 2

attached to the sewer or having a sewer run through their property, 43 homes that are not actually on the sewer, correct, Kelly.

00:06:50 Speaker 6

Is it 41 or 43?

00:06:51 Speaker 6

43.

00:06:52 Speaker 2

43.

00:06:54 Speaker 2

And we are charging them currently with a \$26 fee to bypass not being on the sewer.

00:07:02 Speaker 2

They have their own septic system that's operating and we're charging them a monthly fee of \$26 and

00:07:09 Speaker 2

With every sewer increase, that number continues to go up.

00:07:13 Speaker 2

I think we're estimating in about two years, it'll go to 30.

00:07:15 Speaker 2

So to not participate in city sewer, you would have to pay a \$30 fee.

00:07:20 Speaker 2

I think we need to examine that.

00:07:23 Speaker 2

I did call some of the surrounding cities and find out how they were handling it.

00:07:28 Speaker 2

Is this per month or per month?

00:07:29 Speaker 2

Per month.

00:07:31 Speaker 2

Per month.

00:07:32 Speaker 2

So Dale said it's \$26 and what right now?

00:07:38 Speaker 3

It's 26 and some change.

00:07:40 Speaker 3

I think it's 5253 that I pay on two places, something real close to that.

00:07:46 Speaker 2

There's been several, quite a few citizens that have mentioned.

00:07:49 Speaker 2

Like I said, I was not on the board 25 years ago when this was passed.

00:07:53 Speaker 2

Do you have, do we have written documentation of what was said before?

00:07:57 Speaker 3

It's somehow or another come up missing.

00:07:59 Speaker 3

Nobody could seem to find it.

00:08:01 Speaker 3

But it was back when Evelyn Mitchell was still our

00:08:04 Speaker 3

city recorder, and Darrell Denton was our mayor.

00:08:09 Speaker 3

And it was in the year, I was on the board from 1996 to 2000.

00:08:16 Speaker 3

And it was during that time period that this system was installed.

00:08:20 Speaker 3

And at that time, it was \$10 bypass.

00:08:25 Speaker 3

And when stage one, which is what I'm on, was paid off, it was supposed to go away.

00:08:32 Speaker 3

Well, again,

00:08:34 Speaker 3

This board or no other board can hold the next board to anything in particular.

00:08:39 Speaker 3

Correct.

00:08:40 Speaker 3

But the board at that time voted that would be a \$10 bypass until that phase one was paid for and then it would go away.

00:08:50 Speaker 3

But somehow or another the paperwork has come up missing.

00:08:54 Speaker 3

But again, my personal opinion, and again, it affects me as it does some people, but

00:09:03 Speaker 3

We're actually getting charged for something we don't have.

00:09:07 Speaker 3

And I understand it's a benefit to the city, but I guess if we wanted to get technical, all the barwood was bypassed as well and we don't charge them anything.

00:09:17 Speaker 2

There's no sewer main that's there.

00:09:19 Speaker 2

We have a sewer main going around your property and that has to be maintained by the city.

00:09:25 Speaker 2

So if there's an issue, there is infrastructure that has to be handled.

00:09:29 Speaker 2

So I understand the need

00:09:31 Speaker 2

for maintenance of the infrastructure.

00:09:33 Speaker 2

But every time we do a sewer study, I know that has continued to go up.

00:09:38 Speaker 2

We know in two years it's gonna go to \$30.

00:09:40 Speaker 2

Right.

00:09:41 Speaker 2

I did contact Lighthouse and Greenbrier.

00:09:45 Speaker 2

Lighthouse is a little bit different.

00:09:46 Speaker 2

They don't have near as many homes and they have a much larger population base.

00:09:51 Speaker 2

But right now they don't charge a sewer bypass.

00:09:55 Speaker 2

And even to modify their system,

00:09:58 Speaker 2

When they had, you know, if someone needs to go, when they were doing this, and they were putting homes on sewer from septic, because they were able to utilize their septic tanks, maybe put in a grinder pump, the modification, they weren't even charging the customers.

00:10:13 Speaker 2

They figured that they would make it up on the back end, the sewer rates, over a course of years.

00:10:18 Speaker 2

So I talked to Travis, who's the director over there.

00:10:21 Speaker 2

They have about six or

00:10:23 Speaker 2

They know of six homes definitely that are not, and there may be a dozen more that are not on the sewer system and they're not charging a bypass fee.

00:10:31 Speaker 2

So Greenbrier, I talked to Dee over there and she said there are hundreds of homes that are not on sewer.

00:10:42 Speaker 2

And up until now, I think recently they just passed where they're paying, how much was that again, Tim?

00:10:48 Speaker 1

I think it was \$15.

00:10:50 Speaker 2

They just passed

00:10:51 Speaker 2

where every citizen bypassing the sewer was gonna pay a \$15 fee to not be on.

00:10:57 Speaker 2

Now, yes ma'am.

00:10:59 Speaker 8

I'll wait till you're done, I have a question after that.

00:11:01 Speaker 2

Okay, now I know we have a unique system in that we only pump what we call the affluent, the liquid waste, down to Nashville.

00:11:13 Speaker 2

The solids stay in the tank.

00:11:15 Speaker 5

It's all gray water that gets put in.

00:11:17 Speaker 2

Yeah, just the gray water, just the affluent that's sent down to Nashville, not the solids.

00:11:22 Speaker 2

So when we eventually do Barwood and all the rest of the area, I think Lennox has to finish Barwood, Red Oak, Red Oak Court, Maplewood, Carter, there's still a lot of homes, 175 plus homes that we're looking to get on sewer, now when that comes through there,

00:11:42 Speaker 2

The citizen is going to be responsible for putting in a new tank.

00:11:46 Speaker 2

They can't use that existing septic tank.

00:11:49 Speaker 2

So there's going to be a fairly large expenditure to get onto the system of a tank and a pump that, you know, currently they're not doing, you know, they have their own septic system.

00:12:02 Speaker 2

So, yes ma'am.

00:12:02 Speaker 8

They're not gonna get the option of not tying in until their septic system goes bad like everybody else did.

00:12:10 Speaker 2

Well, yes, that is, they'll have the option to bypass, but right now over in that area, due to the soil, due to the rockiness of everything, and many of those fields, primary and secondary fields, many of them are failing.

00:12:25 Speaker 2

The first one's already been used up.

00:12:27 Speaker 2

The second one has, you know, the soil's no longer able to absorb anymore.

00:12:31 Speaker 2

I'm not a soil scientist, but I have dealt with this before, you know, with primary systems and secondary fields and the soil over there is just not good for absorption.

00:12:40 Speaker 2

So they will have the option if their septic field is, their leach field is able to absorb.

00:12:48 Speaker 8

And who will determine what the condition of their leach?

00:12:52 Speaker 2

That would be the county.

00:12:53 Speaker 2

The state of County.

00:12:54 Speaker 2

The Robertson County.

00:12:55 Speaker 6

So somebody's going to go look at it.

00:12:56 Speaker 2

Yes, Robertson County Environmental typically is who handles the sewer septic issues that happen everywhere.

00:13:04 Speaker 2

We don't, we're, no one here is qualified to do that.

00:13:07 Speaker 2

Not even our building.

00:13:08 Speaker 8

It's good that we're going to do that.

00:13:09 Speaker 2

It's the county wastewater, Robertson County, they handle that.

00:13:13 Speaker 2

So what I'd like to propose is rather than seeing this fee continuing to go up with every sewer study,

00:13:21 Speaker 2

And seeing, you know, we have a lot of elderly folks on fixed incomes.

00:13:26 Speaker 2

And, you know, starting off at \$10, we're up to 26, another couple of, you know, couple years we're up to 30.

00:13:33 Speaker 2

It starts to get up there.

00:13:35 Speaker 2

And people's incomes aren't going up.

00:13:37 Speaker 2

When you're on a fixed income and you're retired, your income's not going up.

00:13:41 Speaker 2

And we know expenses, gas, I mean gas right now is doubled what it was from a year, year and a half ago.

00:13:46 Speaker 2

Food costs are high.

00:13:49 Speaker 2

Is this something that we can do as a board to at least set a flat rate of that bypass fee, as opposed to putting on a graduating scale every time we have to have a sewer increase?

00:14:01 Speaker 8

That's a good idea.

00:14:04 Speaker 5

What'd you say, 43?

00:14:07 Speaker 6

43 homes.

00:14:08 Speaker 2

43 homes right now.

00:14:10 Speaker 5

Even after the increase, you're still talking less than \$1,300 per year or per month.

00:14:16 Speaker 2

Per month, per month.

00:14:20 Speaker 2

So now that would have to be absorbed by the existing sewer, those that are on sewer benefiting from sewer.

00:14:31 Speaker 2

Makes sense?

00:14:33 Speaker 8

Have we considered maybe freezing it for the elderly only?

00:14:38 Speaker 1

I don't know if legally we could do that.

00:14:44 Speaker 7

I don't know, it's not considered a tax, so I don't know if you can freeze a fee.

00:14:54 Speaker 8

Okay.

00:14:56 Speaker 2

Well, I understand the need for the fee to maintain the infrastructure.

00:15:01 Speaker 2

I propose setting a flat fee of \$15 a month and just keep it at that until at some point in time, they're gonna have to go on city sewer and they're gonna have to do the investment of that tank

00:15:14 Speaker 2

and the pump, but right now my proposal is \$15 a month.

00:15:19 Speaker 2

We'll reduce from the 26 to the 15.

00:15:25 Speaker 2

I like that.

00:15:26 Speaker 2

And that's just, this board, we can talk about it, we make a decision.

00:15:31 Speaker 2

The next board that comes on may decide that it's not enough.

00:15:35 Speaker 2

But I would feel better reducing that knowing, I know some of our surrounding cities.

00:15:40 Speaker 2

either aren't charging anything or their fees are comparable, and we are two and a half, you know, twice as much or more.

00:15:47 Speaker 8

I think that's very reasonable, John.

00:15:52 Speaker 1

Now, question I got, Kelly, can that be done?

00:15:57 Speaker 4

The board can set the rate at whatever you want, but I can tell you that the repair and maintenance line item, we are in September, and that line item has already been expended.

00:16:08 Speaker 4

and depleted for this year.

00:16:10 Speaker 2

Because of repairs having to be made.

00:16:12 Speaker 4

Yeah, he's already over budget.

00:16:15 Speaker 2

For this fiscal year already.

00:16:16 Speaker 4

For this fiscal year.

00:16:17 Speaker 2

So we've got another nine months.

00:16:25 Speaker 8

Can we put it into effect January 1st?

00:16:29 Speaker 4

We still have six months left of a budget.

00:16:32 Speaker 2

And we can revise that too, correct?

00:16:35 Speaker 4

Revise what?

00:16:36 Speaker 2

The budget for that?

00:16:37 Speaker 4

You can.

00:16:38 Speaker 4

You have to have revenues to, I mean, you're still going to have to figure out where your revenue is coming from to cover.

00:16:44 Speaker 4

That was the purpose of the rate study.

00:16:48 Speaker 1

And as Kelly just said, that's the reason we did this rate study is because we're behind the eight ball of keeping up with costs.

00:16:59 Speaker 2

It's hard being a small city with limited revenue.

00:17:02 Speaker 2

I know that.

00:17:03 Speaker 4

The repair, yeah, repair and maintenance is a big deal for.

00:17:08 Speaker 7

If I may, under Tennessee code 735-414, yes, I would say you can't ever reduce rate because they consider the base sewer rate, and we would have a base rate of X dollars for bypass, which is a base sewer rate, they consider that a tax.

00:17:32 Speaker 7

And the tax

00:17:34 Speaker 7

being a tax, you can do reduced for citizens over a certain age, 65 primarily is what you see.

00:17:43 Speaker 7

So we could do it for seniors if you didn't do it across the board.

00:17:47 Speaker 7

I'm just throwing that out there.

00:17:49 Speaker 2

I understand.

00:17:49 Speaker 2

So we're talking \$11 and some change on 43 customers, which, what is that, less than \$500 a month on \$43, 43 customers with \$11 and change?

00:18:05 Speaker 4

So, based on the sewer study that Dudney, I mean that Buddy did, you're talking \$30.43.

00:18:12 Speaker 4

That's.

00:18:13 Speaker 2

What they wanted to go to, was \$30.

00:18:16 Speaker 6

So we're...

00:18:16 Speaker 4

That's what your revenue is based on.

00:18:20 Speaker 2

So we would have to adjust that for the existing customers then to absorb that, correct?

00:18:25 Speaker 8

Correct.

00:18:27 Speaker 8

So what if we went to 20?

00:18:29 Speaker 8

for the bypass rather than going, what would it be after you put this in?

00:18:34 Speaker 8

30 months.

00:18:35 Speaker 5

Yeah, well, that'd be two years.

00:18:37 Speaker 1

Yeah, three years.

00:18:38 Speaker 5

When would this rate take effect?

00:18:41 Speaker 4

On the second reading, after the month following the second reading.

00:18:46 Speaker 5

We've already passed it once.

00:18:47 Speaker 4

No, this is frustrating.

00:18:49 Speaker 5

Oh, I thought we'd know.

00:18:52 Speaker 1

Oh, we passed it.

00:18:53 Speaker 5

I thought we...

00:18:55 Speaker 4

Did you have a photo on it last month?

00:18:56 Speaker 5

I thought so.

00:18:58 Speaker 5

I thought we did.

00:18:59 Speaker 2

Because we said we would adjust the numbers if we need to in the second region.

00:19:04 Speaker 4

Okay, hold on, let me look.

00:19:06 Speaker 7

John, since you have now become the sewer utility expert, I believe you also, by ordinance, can create an implementation that once that sewer is available for access, your utility easement, public utility easement.

00:19:25 Speaker 7

you can say you have to tap onto it within X amount of time frame, two years, 18 months a year.

00:19:32 Speaker 7

And if you're not doing that, I would recommend it because then that's going to absorb some of the, take away some of your maintenance issues, maybe, or these people are having.

00:19:45 Speaker 7

So we go get the new installation of the grinder system that we have.

00:19:51 Speaker 7

and get some revenue in.

00:19:53 Speaker 7

That way, I say, is that what you're talking about?

00:19:56 Speaker 8

How would that help them?

00:20:00 Speaker 7

More general revenue.

00:20:02 Speaker 1

Generate additional revenue.

00:20:04 Speaker 2

Once it's available and they don't go on, we charge them the bypass fee.

00:20:09 Speaker 2

That would be additional revenue.

00:20:11 Speaker 8

But if we put like 18 months, if they've got a good system now.

00:20:16 Speaker 8

which they may not or probably don't from what you said.

00:20:21 Speaker 8

If they do have a good system, forcing them onto it doesn't seem fair.

00:20:25 Speaker 8

But we're counting on them not having a good system.

00:20:32 Speaker 2

Well, the sewer coming into play will help alleviate the stress on that area with the failing
leash fields.

00:20:42 Speaker 7

Well, I know there's no

00:20:47 Speaker 7

Sit in your backyard having a nice BBQ.

00:20:53 Speaker 7

And when it rains...

00:20:58 Speaker 2

Well, what now?

00:20:59 Speaker 6

You said we have to come up with additional revenue.

00:21:02 Speaker 4

Check me, but I don't.

00:21:03 Speaker 6

Show it on last month.

00:21:04 Speaker 4

I said check me, but I don't show it on last month's agenda.

00:21:07 Speaker 7

What?

00:21:08 Speaker 4

This ordinance.

00:21:10 Speaker 8

Where are the minutes from last bar?

00:21:13 Speaker 4

They're in your packet.

00:21:17 Speaker 4

I think we had this discussion about if they could pass it on first reading and then if they need to change it on second, but it wasn't on the agenda last time.

00:21:25 Speaker 2

So we didn't vote on it.

00:21:26 Speaker 7

We didn't vote on it at all.

00:21:27 Speaker 4

No.

00:21:32 Speaker 2

Well, we were at ordinance 2026-105 North's amending ordinance 2025, establishing sewerage for the collection and treatment.

00:21:41 Speaker 5

We just discussed it and we just.

00:21:43 Speaker 3

Decided not to go there.

00:21:44 Speaker 3

We just tabled it until this month.

00:21:45 Speaker 5

And now we're throwing another wrinkle in it.

00:21:50 Speaker 2

You're saying we have to have additional revenue to cover that loss of revenue of collecting that bypass, are you correct?

00:21:57 Speaker 4

Correct.

00:21:57 Speaker 7

Yeah, you don't want to go into the red on that.

00:22:04 Speaker 1

That causes all kinds of problems.

00:22:05 Speaker 7

A few years they take over your system.

00:22:07 Speaker 7

Correct.

00:22:09 Speaker 2

So what can we do?

00:22:17 Speaker 2

Or what can be done?

00:22:18 Speaker 5

Well, I mean, they would...

00:22:19 Speaker 3

It seems like we didn't have any issue talking about going into the rainy day fund for a retirement plan.

00:22:26 Speaker 8

Right.

00:22:30 Speaker 7

Although I think there's restriction.

00:22:33 Speaker 4

Controller doesn't restrict.

00:22:35 Speaker 4

One is not a reoccurring revenue.

00:22:40 Speaker 4

One is a capital and one is not a reoccurring revenue.

00:22:44 Speaker 4

This creates a reoccurring revenue.

00:22:46 Speaker 6

So we have to have revenue coming in to compensate for that.

00:22:49 Speaker 6

We can't take any funds we have on hand to compensate for the shortfall.

00:22:53 Speaker 4

Correct.

00:22:53 Speaker 1

Correct.

00:22:55 Speaker 6

Okay.

00:22:56 Speaker 7

So stand on zone, gee, no \$5,000 checks.

00:23:03 Speaker 4

Repair and maintenance can't, you gotta have that every year?

00:23:10 Speaker 2

I hate to bring up an issue that we can't resolve and get some kind of relief.

00:23:15 Speaker 3

If we pass this sewer rate budget, when does it take effect?

00:23:20 Speaker 4

After the second reading.

00:23:21 Speaker 4

You can pass it on first tonight with a resolution for second, but this is not on the agenda to pass until 630.

00:23:29 Speaker 3

Proposal, if we take, you know, whatever it is, 10,000, 15,000 out of the

00:23:37 Speaker 3

bypass fees, we could always add it to these other numbers and raise them another percent or whatever it takes to cover that.

00:23:47 Speaker 4

Say that again.

00:23:48 Speaker 3

Well, like if it's going up 2% or whatever it is, we lower the bypass fee and then we go to 2.5% on the raise for the rest of the ones that are actually on the system,

00:24:05 Speaker 3

That was more than offset.

00:24:06 Speaker 2

Yeah, I think the initial, our first time doing is a 5% increase, is it not?

00:24:11 Speaker 2

No.

00:24:13 Speaker 4

It's 15.

00:24:14 Speaker 2

We're doing a 15% increase on the second reading off the bat.

00:24:19 Speaker 4

And then you're gonna say you're gonna increase the users.

00:24:23 Speaker 3

Increase the user's fee in order to decrease the bypass fee.

00:24:29 Speaker 3

You end up with the same revenues.

00:24:32 Speaker 3

You know, and again, the people that are on the system aren't going to like it any more than those that are on the bypass like being raised.

00:24:43 Speaker 3

No, revenues can be brought from either direction.

00:24:49 Speaker 5

43 times 26.

00:24:50 Speaker 5

Let's just do this.

00:24:56 Speaker 5

1118 times 12.

00:25:03 Speaker 6

\$13,416 a year.

00:25:04 Speaker 6

Okay.

00:25:04 Speaker 6

I don't know what you're...

00:25:05 Speaker 6

It's \$13,000 a year we.

00:25:11 Speaker 5

Would have to make up.

00:25:12 Speaker 5

That you have to.

00:25:15 Speaker 4

Make up.

00:25:15 Speaker 5

That we would have to make up just to stay where we're at.

00:25:18 Speaker 5

Gotcha.

00:25:27 Speaker 2

Well, if we reduced it to 15, and we're not just doing away with the fee completely, say we reduce it to 15, 43 times 15,

00:25:38 Speaker 2

times 12, 7740.

00:25:42 Speaker 2

That leaves a short 7,740 on those 43 customers.

00:25:48 Speaker 5

If we put in there that the, when we do the borrower extension and all that, that we would have 18 months, 24 months, whatever for everybody there to go on to it, would that be retroactive to everybody that's bypassing

00:26:05 Speaker 5

At this time.

00:26:06 Speaker 7

I think it would probably only be to affect those in the new access construction.

00:26:15 Speaker 7

Now, if your system's failing, then the state or county comes out there and says, you got to go on it.

00:26:27 Speaker 5

If it runs in front of your, if you have access to it, you can no longer repair your.

00:26:32 Speaker 7

For your fields are all contaminated.

00:26:38 Speaker 7

No more absorption.

00:26:38 Speaker 7

You've exhausted all avenues for private.

00:26:42 Speaker 5

I was under the assumption, though, that you couldn't repair your field line point.

00:26:48 Speaker 5

Once you were, the system was in front of your house, once you had access to it, that when that, when your drip system- Well, I don't know that you're correct.

00:26:57 Speaker 5

Yeah, when the drip system fails, that you cannot,

00:27:01 Speaker 5

Dig out, replace.

00:27:02 Speaker 5

Secondary system.

00:27:04 Speaker 6

Well, you know what, if you have, you have a primary field and a reserve field.

00:27:09 Speaker 7

Some do.

00:27:10 Speaker 6

Huh.

00:27:11 Speaker 7

That's how old your system is.

00:27:12 Speaker 2

Well, you're supposed, well, I don't remember what year went into effect, but I know every time we've done one, we have to have enough space for a primary and enough for a secondary.

00:27:21 Speaker 2

And so there are people actually that have gone back and forth.

00:27:25 Speaker 2

If one, you know, is getting to a point to where that capacity can't absorb,

00:27:31 Speaker 2

Literally, they flip a switch and it goes to the reserve field.

00:27:34 Speaker 2

I don't think anybody in our area has something like that.

00:27:37 Speaker 2

So that's...

00:27:41 Speaker 1

I don't.

00:27:42 Speaker 3

It's a lot newer than our house.

00:27:44 Speaker 2

Yeah, got you.

00:27:45 Speaker 2

Do you have a reserve field there or just the primary?

00:27:48 Speaker 2

No, just primary.

00:27:48 Speaker 2

So you just have the primary.

00:27:50 Speaker 5

So once that's done...

00:27:53 Speaker 7

Once it's done, you can seek out other, but they didn't...

00:27:56 Speaker 7

They didn't require you back in the day to have a reserve field.

00:28:02 Speaker 5

But that's, like I said, I was under the understanding that once you have access to it, if you're bypassing it and anything basically happens to your field lines, you cannot repair that.

00:28:17 Speaker 5

You cannot have them come in and dig more lines, even if you have the land and the property to do it, that once it's there, you can no longer

00:28:26 Speaker 5

I think pumping is about the only thing that you can do to your system at that point.

00:28:32 Speaker 5

If any more maintenance than that, it has to be attached to our system.

00:28:37 Speaker 6

Your forest to the sewer.

00:28:38 Speaker 5

Right, yes.

00:28:39 Speaker 3

And I believe that's correct.

00:28:41 Speaker 3

I don't know the rule number in fact that that was my understanding as well.

00:28:47 Speaker 3

That if the system fails, then you have to go on.

00:28:52 Speaker 8

Do we have that written in our ordinance or anything?

00:28:54 Speaker 8

Or is that an inspection plan?

00:28:57 Speaker 5

That'd be a state, that'd be state.

00:29:00 Speaker 2

Environmental, that if they come out, that's to be the county, come out and inspect.

00:29:04 Speaker 8

Right.

00:29:04 Speaker 2

And if your leach field's failing, and there's a city sewer you have access to, they will force you to go on to that.

00:29:11 Speaker 8

Right, what stops a citizen who knows there's this failing from bringing it back home, dig it out?

00:29:19 Speaker 8

Well, they're not allowed to do codes.

00:29:23 Speaker 8

To do that, you would have to have permit, correct?

00:29:28 Speaker 2

Yes.

00:29:29 Speaker 8

Okay.

00:29:30 Speaker 8

So that's how we're protected that way.

00:29:31 Speaker 2

Yes.

00:29:32 Speaker 2

They would have to go to county environmental and request to put in some field lines, which if there is city sewer going through there, the county would deny them that because they have access to the city sewer system.

00:29:43 Speaker 2

They would not be able to do that.

00:29:47 Speaker 2

okay we had \$8,000 shortfall basically if we went down to \$15 a month how do we make that up?

00:29:54 Speaker 7

What's the time frame on the Briarwood extension?

00:29:59 Speaker 1

At least two to three years so it's it's down the road a little ways.

00:30:18 Speaker 3

How many homes are on the sewer right now?

00:30:21 Speaker 3

We got 43 bypasses.

00:30:22 Speaker 3

How many are actually on it?

00:30:26 Speaker 4

There are around 600 and a little over 600 customers.

00:30:33 Speaker 7

Does that include commercial or just residential?

00:30:35 Speaker 4

That's all.

00:30:39 Speaker 1

And the borrower extension would bring in 170 to 175.

00:30:44 Speaker 7

Did you go up on your commercial?

00:30:55 Speaker 4

Is that an option?

00:31:00 Speaker 4

You guys have all kinds of options.

00:31:01 Speaker 2

I would like to get the bypass fee reduced down to something manageable as opposed to in two years sitting at \$30 a month to bypass the system.

00:31:11 Speaker 2

So we've got 600 customers, do we

00:31:17 Speaker 2

take that 8,000, divide it up among, I mean, would they have to redo the rate study or what?

00:31:22 Speaker 2

No.

00:31:24 Speaker 1

I think that's the tool.

00:31:25 Speaker 1

We just change the percentage of increase.

00:31:31 Speaker 2

So how much, 77.40 divided by 600?

00:31:36 Speaker 4

Your 43s in that 600?

00:31:38 Speaker 2

Huh.

00:31:38 Speaker 4

Your 43s in that 600?

00:31:42 Speaker 2

Oh, it is.

00:31:44 Speaker 2

So

00:31:46 Speaker 2

Five hundred and-- Fifty.

00:31:48 Speaker 2

57.

00:31:49 Speaker 2

557.

00:31:54 Speaker 2

8,000 divided by 557 on a year, that'd be an additional \$14.36 for the year on each one.

00:32:04 Speaker 2

Now that's counting, that 557, is that counting residential and commercial?

00:32:12 Speaker 2

So \$14 and 36 cents would be passed on, and that's on a yearly basis.

00:32:16 Speaker 2

So a dollar and some change per consumer and per business?

00:32:30 Speaker 1

Catch 22.

00:32:35 Speaker 2

Well, they're still paying a bypass fee.

00:32:37 Speaker 2

They're still paying \$15 to maintain infrastructure, but not getting the utilization of the sewer system itself.

00:32:49 Speaker 2

We're not doing away with it, we're just reducing it.

00:32:54 Speaker 1

So on a percentage basis, you know, right now we're looking at a 15% increase.

00:33:00 Speaker 1

What would we have to go to, 17?

00:33:05 Speaker 3

For \$2 a month, we would never jump to that height.

00:33:07 Speaker 2

A dollar and some change a month.

00:33:08 Speaker 2

Like I said, it's \$14.36 per year.

00:33:11 Speaker 2

We'll divide that by 12.

00:33:15 Speaker 2

Dollar and 20 cents.

00:33:20 Speaker 2

A dollar and 20 cents.

00:33:21 Speaker 2

I doubt it would be 15.5 percent.

00:33:25 Speaker 7

So what's the current residential rate?

00:33:31 Speaker 2

And we had that last round.

00:33:32 Speaker 2

Let me see.

00:33:33 Speaker 2

Hang on.

00:33:34 Speaker 4

45.64 for base rate and 741 per 1,000 gallons.

00:33:41 Speaker 7

What's your average bill?

00:33:42 Speaker 4

That's for residential.

00:33:44 Speaker 7

What's your average bill do you know?

00:33:46 Speaker 4

Somewhere between \$65 and \$75 for residential.

00:33:56 Speaker 4

\$65 to \$75?

00:33:57 Speaker 4

We have some that have \$100 bills.

00:34:04 Speaker 2

Yeah, that's what I'm looking at.

00:34:06 Speaker 2

You're saying that the average sewer cost is \$65 a month.

00:34:10 Speaker 2

In 2 years for a citizen to bypass, they're paying 30, almost half what a person is utilizing the system.

00:34:18 Speaker 2

That's why, huh.

00:34:20 Speaker 6

We're having an increase between that and in though.

00:34:22 Speaker 2

Yeah, it's gonna go up, don't, yeah.

00:34:26 Speaker 2

I'm going up right now as members.

00:34:28 Speaker 2

But that's \$30 if a person's paying to bypass it.

00:34:33 Speaker 2

So, now like I said, we're discussing it.

00:34:37 Speaker 2

I'm just advocating saying, is there a way we can figure out how to reduce this and just do a flat fee, leave it at that, and not be included in that sewer study

00:34:47 Speaker 2

and make an adjustment somewhere else.

00:34:51 Speaker 1

What if we take it to 20?

00:34:56 Speaker 1

Okay.

00:34:57 Speaker 1

And then make the increase on the sewer.

00:35:02 Speaker 1

Those things are tight and we've got to get that corrected.

00:35:09 Speaker 2

Correct.

00:35:10 Speaker 1

We don't want a deficit, I understand.

00:35:14 Speaker 1

Take that to 15.5%.

00:35:17 Speaker 1

increase this year and then the continuing years leave them at the same increase that he was proposing.

00:35:31 Speaker 2

Something's better than nothing at this point.

00:35:36 Speaker 1

General would just lock it in at that \$20.

00:35:39 Speaker 5

So it really wouldn't go down much right now, but they would not get the increase.

00:35:44 Speaker 5

Correct.

00:35:45 Speaker 5

Correct.

00:35:45 Speaker 2

So in two years, it would go to 30.

00:35:47 Speaker 2

Right.

00:35:47 Speaker 2

So if we set up...

00:35:52 Speaker 2

If we set a flat 20, it's not changing.

00:35:56 Speaker 2

For the time being, you can.

00:35:59 Speaker 7

Change it at any time.

00:36:00 Speaker 6

Correct.

00:36:02 Speaker 3

This board can't hold the next board.

00:36:05 Speaker 5

Correct.

00:36:05 Speaker 3

The next board can come in and raise it right back up.

00:36:08 Speaker 2

I know.

00:36:17 Speaker 1

Would that, Kelly, get us to a...

00:36:21 Speaker 4

Without being able to run the numbers, I don't know how much a half a percent will bring it.

00:36:26 Speaker 4

You asked about an average, with the new rate, an average home that uses 5,000 gallons of water's bill will be about \$80 with the increase he's proposing that's on the books for tonight.

00:36:43 Speaker 1

So with the, if we change that from 15 to 15 and a half, it'll.

00:36:50 Speaker 7

Be pretty close based on that.

00:36:53 Speaker 1

Yeah, the cover and what we need to cover.

00:36:57 Speaker 7

Because you lose \$430 a month.

00:36:59 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:37:03 Speaker 7

Well, still less than that.

00:37:05 Speaker 7

Well, it's going to 30, right?

00:37:07 Speaker 7

Twenty-six to 30.

00:37:08 Speaker 6

Yeah, in three years.

00:37:09 Speaker 4

Yeah.

00:37:10 Speaker 7

Three years.

00:37:10 Speaker 4

No, as of like tonight, we'll go to 30.

00:37:14 Speaker 1

Oh, okay.

00:37:15 Speaker 1

That would be, yeah.

00:37:16 Speaker 4

Yeah, it's 26 right now.

00:37:18 Speaker 4

It would go to 3043.

00:37:20 Speaker 2

So if we drop it right now, it's \$10, yeah.

00:37:26 Speaker 2

But at least we have done what we could for right now to get a little bit of relief, even \$10 a month.

00:37:38 Speaker 3

\$430 is all that is.

00:37:41 Speaker 5

And even if we have to not increase the bypass fees on this proposal, we're still going to be short.

00:37:54 Speaker 5

We still have to come up with something.

00:37:57 Speaker 1

Yes.

00:37:59 Speaker 1

That's why I made recommendations on that.

00:38:02 Speaker 1

that 15 up to whatever we think we need to cover I think it's probably pretty close but.

00:38:15 Speaker 7

What's your percentage of seniors on fixed income on the new \$80 a month bill anyway you don't have those demographics probably have to compare to the

00:38:32 Speaker 7

Tax freeze, tax freeze.

00:38:37 Speaker 2

I know we're not going to be able to do it tonight.

00:38:54 Speaker 2

Is it possible to have it ready for next month for us to look at?

00:38:57 Speaker 4

Are you talking about the ordinance or the numbers?

00:39:00 Speaker 6

The numbers, so we can decide.

00:39:03 Speaker 4

Yeah, you can pass this on first reading and let's have the numbers.

00:39:07 Speaker 6

Okay.

00:39:10 Speaker 2

That's right.

00:39:10 Speaker 4

That's right.

00:39:14 Speaker 2

I personally prefer 15, but the numbers may not work out.

00:39:19 Speaker 2

I propose that we set the bypass to be at \$20 a month.

00:39:23 Speaker 4

No, no, no, we're not.

00:39:25 Speaker 2

Can't do anything on that.

00:39:26 Speaker 4

To the next meeting.

00:39:27 Speaker 2

Till the next one.

00:39:28 Speaker 2

Okay.

00:39:30 Speaker 4

You're in discussion.

00:39:31 Speaker 2

Discussion.

00:39:32 Speaker 2

we do it in the next meeting.

00:39:34 Speaker 4

That's right.

00:39:34 Speaker 2

Forgive me.

00:39:35 Speaker 2

I'm sorry.

00:39:36 Speaker 2

We're discussing.

00:39:40 Speaker 2

I'm talking a little bit better, so maybe that's what...

00:39:47 Speaker 6

You know what?

00:39:48 Speaker 4

Yeah.

00:39:49 Speaker 5

Be nice to me.

00:39:50 Speaker 4

I can, I should, I'll get money to try to run it.

00:39:55 Speaker 4

But I would like to come back to something that Dale said, if I may.

00:40:01 Speaker 4

You said you used the words come up missing and you were talking about from 1996 to 2000.

00:40:08 Speaker 4

I wasn't here during those years.

00:40:11 Speaker 4

I just want to make sure everybody else does as well.

00:40:13 Speaker 3

If I'm thinking right, I even mentioned that Evelyn Mitchell was still the recorder at that time.

00:40:18 Speaker 4

Yeah.

00:40:19 Speaker 4

But if they passed that at that time, it should have been passed as part, well, that and part of the ordinances that were built during that time, because they built the whole set of rules and regulations during that time period.

00:40:33 Speaker 3

Gerald Hinton this past month?

00:40:36 Speaker 3

and was unable to make any contact with you.

00:40:38 Speaker 4

Yeah.

00:40:39 Speaker 4

Well, we have reviewed those ordinances.

00:40:42 Speaker 4

I don't know if you have or not, but we've been back through those ordinances trying to find it, and we haven't found anything on record that says that.

00:40:51 Speaker 4

We have tried to go back and look for this.

00:40:53 Speaker 2

I'm promising to remove that \$10 fee.

00:40:55 Speaker 2

And I remember a representative for the gentlemen, the two that were giving us the sewer rate study, and they actually worked on it with you back then.

00:41:04 Speaker 2

They didn't even remember

00:41:05 Speaker 2

anything in there, but of removing that \$10 fee?

00:41:09 Speaker 4

But he worked alongside for a long time.

00:41:12 Speaker 4

But you can look through our code.

00:41:14 Speaker 4

It's in, like it's in online.

00:41:16 Speaker 4

You can look through that to see if you can find it as well.

00:41:19 Speaker 4

But I just wanted to, you know, we have looked for it.

00:41:22 Speaker 5

Maybe it was talked about and it's supposed to have been done, but it's never gotten.

00:41:26 Speaker 3

There's a possibility as well.

00:41:27 Speaker 4

Right.

00:41:29 Speaker 1

Well, like I said, this is a catch 22 situation.

00:41:32 Speaker 1

You know, we're

00:41:34 Speaker 1

appeasing one and penalizing another.

00:41:38 Speaker 1

We've just got to come up with something that I guess is fair and equitable to everyone.

00:41:50 Speaker 2

If we balance it a little bit, we are reducing it on 43.

00:41:55 Speaker 2

We're not getting anything from the system and spreading it out over 550, which lessens it.

00:42:02 Speaker 2

greatly over a majority as opposed to the few carrying that.

00:42:12 Speaker 7

Or does not increase at all on the bypass.

00:42:18 Speaker 7

Leave it as is.

00:42:21 Speaker 1

That's another option.

00:42:23 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:42:26 Speaker 3

Then I've got a dog in the hunt and I kind of like the reduction.

00:42:29 Speaker 3

Well, I think we'll have to discuss that.

00:42:32 Speaker 2

That'll be the city meeting.

00:42:34 Speaker 2

We'll be voting on it.

00:42:35 Speaker 2

We can put different proposals up and it can be voted up or down.

00:42:40 Speaker 7

We can do anything.

00:42:41 Speaker 7

I mean, that's my point is what I was trying to say.

00:42:43 Speaker 7

You can do anything.

00:42:45 Speaker 7

To be fair there.

00:42:50 Speaker 1

Well, the main thing here is we've got to cover

00:42:53 Speaker 1

We've got to cover our expenses.

00:43:00 Speaker 1

And they're definitely not going down.

00:43:04 Speaker 1

They're doing nothing but rising every other day.

00:43:06 Speaker 7

Did he mention in his study, I know all of this is going that direction?

00:43:13 Speaker 7

Gillesville, process, all that.

00:43:16 Speaker 7

And

00:43:19 Speaker 7

I'm not mistaken, Guiltsville's getting ready to go up on everybody's rate.

00:43:23 Speaker 7

So you're going to get a bigger expense from Guiltsville because they have to because Metro's killing them.

00:43:29 Speaker 7

It's all a volume thing.

00:43:31 Speaker 7

That's why the I&I is so critical.

00:43:36 Speaker 1

Yeah, there are several cities around us that are getting ready to do the same thing.

00:43:43 Speaker 7

They talk they're reaching capacity in Metro.

00:43:46 Speaker 7

I mean, you know.

00:43:47 Speaker 1

Yes, Metro's got some issues.

00:43:51 Speaker 2

Well I know when I was researching this and I did find out that Greenbrier had hundreds of homes that aren't on city sewer and they weren't paying any bypass fee and then the city council just passed a \$15 bypass fee for every citizen.

00:44:08 Speaker 2

You're talking hundreds.

00:44:09 Speaker 7

Even if it's accessible?

00:44:11 Speaker 7

I mean non-accessible.

00:44:13 Speaker 2

That I don't know.

00:44:14 Speaker 4

I think they're trying to rectify the fact that.

00:44:18 Speaker 2

So if it's not accessible, they won't charge them.

00:44:21 Speaker 2

But if it is, they're gonna pay that \$15 fee.

00:44:23 Speaker 4

I believe that's correct.

00:44:25 Speaker 2

So I don't know how many that is, but I was told it was hundreds right now that are not on the sewer.

00:44:34 Speaker 2

But if they have access to sewer, they either get on the sewer or they pay the fee, the bypass.

00:44:42 Speaker 7

I would suggest we look at an ordinance for a mandatory

00:44:48 Speaker 7

two year, I think Gullisville is a two year.

00:44:53 Speaker 7

But obviously that would be shortened if in the event that you were required to do it by virtue of any failed systems and impacts from the state.

00:45:01 Speaker 1

I think that's something that we probably need to look at, especially if we can get this Barwood expansion going, get that in place now.

00:45:12 Speaker 7

That's a projected revenue too for his.

00:45:16 Speaker 5

Yes.

00:45:17 Speaker 4

And it's in his study.

00:45:18 Speaker 4

What happens after that two years?

00:45:22 Speaker 4

Like if they have two years to have gone, what's the penalty?

00:45:24 Speaker 7

They probably pay an average fee.

00:45:27 Speaker 4

They pay an average fee.

00:45:31 Speaker 4

They go from that non-user to a user fee or something.

00:45:36 Speaker 6

They're forced to that.

00:45:37 Speaker 7

I don't know, I'd have to look at the enforcement, but I don't think the city can go out there and start digging.

00:45:44 Speaker 4

No, I didn't know if there was, but there's some type of penalty answer.

00:45:56 Speaker 1

Okay.

00:46:00 Speaker 1

I guess we'll get into that when we get into the meeting for what we need to do and how we need to handle it.

00:46:07 Speaker 1

Okay, next item up is turner changes.

00:46:15 Speaker 1

We have made some variety of charter changes, and Russell, if you would go through those for us.

00:46:27 Speaker 7

You should have what's called a red line.

00:46:29 Speaker 7

I hope it's good and legible from the red.

00:46:31 Speaker 7

The red and the blue, that's just based on different time frames of when the

00:46:39 Speaker 7

potential edits were included, but we started there at section five, which is really where everything needed to start and begin a charter amendment based on our conversation with Mr.

00:46:52 Speaker 7

Jakel and his recommendations and a few notes and my review of the statute and a little back and forth with him.

00:47:00 Speaker 7

But obviously a lot of it's some gender neutral.

00:47:05 Speaker 7

I took

00:47:08 Speaker 7

some liberty of kind of changing a few words like obviously we have the ability in our police department to that we're not taking away that we can have a police department.

00:47:21 Speaker 7

But there shall be the duty of the chief of police, subordinate police officers to enforce.

00:47:27 Speaker 7

And they use the word violators.

00:47:30 Speaker 7

I just said all of the ordinance and laws of the city and state of Tennessee.

00:47:37 Speaker 7

and it said bring them before the city judge.

00:47:39 Speaker 7

Well obviously we don't have General Sessions powers so if they were arrested for DUI on Main Street here they're not going to come before our city judge.

00:47:49 Speaker 7

That's a state offense that goes to the proper tribunal.

00:47:55 Speaker 7

There at the bottom where I have that in blue

00:47:58 Speaker 7

That's just for middle note for the citations because obviously it will be amended again by a private act 2000 let's say it's 2027 to 2026.

00:48:09 Speaker 7

I'll have to get I'm not a legislative scholar on how they decide when the numbers and how the acts get their private acts get their numbers but it'll be presented that way and there'll be a lot of those as you'll see through here there is a citation and referencing the private act will be amended as well.

00:48:30 Speaker 7

The next page, that 9 through 13, those are, these are, and these enumerations here are really everything that's kind of in the TCA.

00:48:40 Speaker 7

Those are, when you go right to that TCA section about the powers and an automatic, mayor automatic charter, what they can do, and they're very consistent with other types of charters as well.

00:48:52 Speaker 7

These are pretty consistent.

00:48:55 Speaker 7

Didn't really see any need for change there.

00:49:00 Speaker 7

You know, it's kind of interesting.

00:49:02 Speaker 7

There obviously was some amendment, even though it's not cited because it talks about network of wire cable.

00:49:07 Speaker 7

I don't think they had cable back in 1935.

00:49:12 Speaker 7

And turnover '14 through '19 didn't need any real changes.

00:49:19 Speaker 7

Again, these are those statutory rights and privileges that the city can continue.

00:49:29 Speaker 7

Then all the way up to 26, and I noticed that in the current end of the, you'll see in the tail end, there were a few things that were, they just marked them deleted.

00:49:42 Speaker 7

So that keeps us from having to go through and do all this renumbering.

00:49:45 Speaker 7

So we'll just say delete.

00:49:48 Speaker 7

But we want to take away that we have the right to purchase or construct, maintain or establish a workhouse.

00:49:56 Speaker 7

for the confinement detention of the persons convicted in the city court of offense against the laws.

00:50:01 Speaker 7

I mean, we don't convict anybody.

00:50:04 Speaker 7

That's, I don't think, I guess maybe, back in 1935, maybe y'all did convict some people.

00:50:11 Speaker 7

I don't know.

00:50:12 Speaker 7

A lot went on back at first.

00:50:15 Speaker 2

So if they failed to secure the fine of what they were convicted of, then they were put to work.

00:50:21 Speaker 7

No, well, the old penal system, I guess, you know,

00:50:26 Speaker 7

special, but you had the train coming through here, but we're not going to contract how to work house with the county and all that.

00:50:37 Speaker 7

We're out of the jail business, we're out of the general sessions business, and we don't need to enforce the detention of any people.

00:50:47 Speaker 7

28, pretty much the same thing, but in reference to schools, that's all county run, we don't have the ability statutorily to even start up.

00:50:56 Speaker 7

school.

00:50:56 Speaker 7

That's a county function to hire teachers, provide their compensation.

00:51:02 Speaker 7

It'd be great if you could, it'd be great if you could afford it.

00:51:07 Speaker 7

I don't even think Brentwood has their own private school system.

00:51:10 Speaker 7

So don't feel slighted that you're not letting your citizens become well-educated young children.

00:51:18 Speaker 7

But you know, we're just not going to

00:51:23 Speaker 7

support and complete an educational system with our municipal.

00:51:26 Speaker 7

It's just not even allowed.

00:51:29 Speaker 7

We want to regulate taxes, license, suppress, keeping -- that's at number 20 times with regard to animals.

00:51:35 Speaker 7

And that's just in accordance with all local and state regulations.

00:51:38 Speaker 7

They changed the rules and regs on dogs and cats and what you can do to animals and whatnot.

00:51:47 Speaker 7

I just said in accordance with, you know, all applicable local and state regulations.

00:51:56 Speaker 7

32C is where we kind of get into which was some of the detailed discussion about with our appointments and the authority, that person that's appointed to what is called a municipal function.

00:52:13 Speaker 7

I looked and kind of decided we would just say they're the director.

00:52:19 Speaker 7

But it goes on to say, and we can change that term, that was my term.

00:52:24 Speaker 7

We took out shall have full authority to exercise general supervision over the department head or chief responsible.

00:52:35 Speaker 7

That would be, for instance, in the example for a police chief, obviously no one here has the qualifications to

00:52:44 Speaker 7

supervise a police officer.

00:52:46 Speaker 7

Now, you have the ability to hire and fire based on your pleasure or their incompetence or whatever.

00:52:55 Speaker 7

But we're not going to step in and holster up and take over that position, nor are we going to do it for fire.

00:53:03 Speaker 7

Again, those are state-regulated, qualified positions.

00:53:09 Speaker 7

But this person, what's that?

00:53:11 Speaker 5

So we can't do that without a workhouse.

00:53:13 Speaker 5

That's true, that's true.

00:53:15 Speaker 7

Be the first president.

00:53:18 Speaker 7

And this person shall act, and this is where I took out that part about they're gonna take over the department.

00:53:24 Speaker 7

I don't think anybody has time or wants to take over any department.

00:53:29 Speaker 7

All as a group would make decisions on the

00:53:33 Speaker 7

the operations of that department until the proper personnel were hired to get in there and do that on a day-to-day basis.

00:53:42 Speaker 7

But this person should act as a liaison between the below municipal functions as may be affected through a duly created department because we have departments or boards or any other municipal function because then again the

00:54:03 Speaker 7

I guess the position of the, what was it, community relations and economic development doesn't really flow out of a park board or a sewer department.

00:54:16 Speaker 7

So we just kind of kept that a little broad.

00:54:20 Speaker 7

And basically to oversee, and again, that's non-supervisory, and that's specified to me, not a supervisor.

00:54:31 Speaker 7

You don't have the ability to exercise any powers.

00:54:36 Speaker 7

But you do have the ability to oversee what's going on and basically report to the board of mayor and alderman of the activities, actions, requirements, plans of any department board for one or more of the following municipal functions.

00:54:55 Speaker 7

And these are the eight that were in there.

00:54:58 Speaker 7

These are the original aid, and I don't really see a whole lot of reason to start mixing and matching the names.

00:55:10 Speaker 7

So I just like that.

00:55:12 Speaker 7

Fire and police, utilities, and any other function, because you have the ability to create other functions.

00:55:20 Speaker 7

You don't just have to have these aids.

00:55:21 Speaker 7

You can at any time by ordinance create another

00:55:27 Speaker 7

liaison municipal of municipal function.

00:55:31 Speaker 2

Now with this it says one or more of the following municipal functions.

00:55:36 Speaker 2

So are we amending the charter?

00:55:38 Speaker 7

The or more is an amendment, yes, because it said one.

00:55:43 Speaker 7

Anything it ran is an amendment.

00:55:46 Speaker 7

That means now we're not going to have eight, four have one and mayor has four.

00:55:55 Speaker 7

Yeah, I know, but some of them pair up real nicely, you know, and that's kind of what you kind of probably want to do in the future or whoever the next group is would kind of pair.

00:56:05 Speaker 2

So this amendment would allow the mayor to appoint a person if it coincides to their liaison to two of those areas.

00:56:13 Speaker 7

They don't have to coincide, but that's obviously makes sense.

00:56:20 Speaker 7

And even though

00:56:22 Speaker 7

we still have the fire and police, but police technically, we could be, reporting on what's going on with our sheriff and any interaction there.

00:56:32 Speaker 7

So it doesn't just mean our police department, whether we have one or not.

00:56:36 Speaker 7

When I say our, the city's.

00:56:41 Speaker 7

And it says the director shall have no governing, nor executive powers or authority with a fire.

00:56:48 Speaker 7

focus on implementation and not governance is what that role is.

00:56:53 Speaker 7

It's not a governing role, it's an implementation, figuring out what that department, what that board needs, bringing it to the city and kind of bringing it to what we're doing.

00:57:07 Speaker 7

And it just makes sense.

00:57:09 Speaker 7

And the rest of it's all just some gender neutral amendments there.

00:57:17 Speaker 7

not every alderman has to be a he and not every judge has to be a he and the city judge shall impose and then I said all fines costs and penalties and

00:57:30 Speaker 7

took out that and fixed the punishment of offenders and commit the same to jail to await trial.

00:57:38 Speaker 7

Our city judge does not have that power.

00:57:42 Speaker 6

Or the workhouse.

00:57:43 Speaker 7

Or the workhouse.

00:57:46 Speaker 7

Yeah, put them to work at the workhouse.

00:57:49 Speaker 7

Only for adjudicated offenses for violations of the ordinance and bylaws of the corporation.

00:57:55 Speaker 7

Suddenly, start calling the city the corporation, but you're a corporate entity.

00:58:00 Speaker 7

We're not going to start worrying about that semantic.

00:58:04 Speaker 7

And then he or she or is directed to a designated clerk of the court, OK, and shall make.

00:58:11 Speaker 7

In other words, this is the judge's role.

00:58:13 Speaker 7

This is what Kelly found and brought to my attention.

00:58:17 Speaker 7

We're not maintaining those records anymore so much manually.

00:58:21 Speaker 7

So I said he or she, that being the judge, or is directed to a designated clerk of the court.

00:58:27 Speaker 7

In other words, if you got a court, you got to have a clerk.

00:58:29 Speaker 7

would keep and maintain a complete record of all cases, period.

00:58:34 Speaker 7

It always said in a well-bound book.

00:58:37 Speaker 7

We don't keep them in a well-bound book anymore.

00:58:39 Speaker 7

They're just a record electronically or however.

00:58:45 Speaker 7

Gary wanted us to change the ability for the mayor or any two alderman

00:58:56 Speaker 7

where the welfare of the city demands to be able to call special meetings with at least 48 hours notice.

00:59:04 Speaker 7

And that may, I didn't go back and cross-check it, but that may be because of a time frame in which you have to give notice.

00:59:11 Speaker 4

Yes, that's a change.

00:59:11 Speaker 7

They change that to 36 to 48.

00:59:14 Speaker 7

Yeah, I thought so.

00:59:14 Speaker 7

I just presumed that.

00:59:16 Speaker 7

Sometimes my presumptions are right.

00:59:20 Speaker 7

And then that can be by written notice to each alderman,

00:59:26 Speaker 7

mayor and the city recorder served with the notice personally or by leaving the notice at his or her usual place of residence or via electronic notice because that's what we're doing now for all notices at the assigned digital e-mail address with the city.

00:59:45 Speaker 7

In other words, if you've got, you are an alderman here, you need to have an assigned digital e-mail address.

00:59:52 Speaker 7

And I think everybody has one.

00:59:53 Speaker 4

The city assigned.

00:59:54 Speaker 7

Yeah.

00:59:55 Speaker 7

And that's your assigned.

00:59:58 Speaker 7

And that is what I propose for suggested changes to be voted on.

01:00:10 Speaker 7

Certainly it's a work in progress.

01:00:12 Speaker 7

I don't, anybody have any other thoughts?

01:00:16 Speaker 7

Want to read through it here if we've got a little break before the meeting?

01:00:19 Speaker 7

And is this on the regular agenda?

01:00:23 Speaker 7

No.

01:00:24 Speaker 4

Okay, we've made a resolution.

01:00:26 Speaker 4

It'll need a resolution.

01:00:28 Speaker 7

Yeah, I know.

01:00:29 Speaker 4

Yeah, so we didn't do a resolution.

01:00:31 Speaker 7

Okay.

01:00:33 Speaker 7

If it doesn't require ordinance, you can do resolution or motion.

01:00:38 Speaker 7

But once you pass this, then this is what we're going with.

01:00:42 Speaker 7

So my thought is, if we could go, which we have the time to do it, one more go round.

01:00:50 Speaker 7

Because I think he gave us the December time to start getting it submitted to the legislator.

01:00:55 Speaker 7

And actually, I haven't heard from Gary Jaifel.

01:00:58 Speaker 7

I don't think he's probably going to say anything other than what's good.

01:01:07 Speaker 2

I have one proposal to add to it.

01:01:09 Speaker 7

Absolutely.

01:01:10 Speaker 2

One proposal to add to it.

01:01:13 Speaker 2

And this is for upcoming a mayor elected in the next two years.

01:01:22 Speaker 2

Right now,

01:01:23 Speaker 2

We have no city manager.

01:01:25 Speaker 2

We're too small of a city.

01:01:26 Speaker 2

And the mayor acts as the city manager.

01:01:30 Speaker 2

He pretty much deals with all the city employees, city workers, handles a lot of things.

01:01:37 Speaker 7

And I know-- Well, let me just add to that.

01:01:39 Speaker 7

Because actually, yes, and then technically each of the directors of the municipal function areas are somewhat of a city manager because that's how the information is tied to this up.

01:01:53 Speaker 2

Facing the day-to-day operation of the city falls on the mayor, falls on the mayor.

01:01:57 Speaker 2

And I know that how much, how hard Tim works.

01:02:01 Speaker 2

I know how much he drives and I know how much, you know, he is at meetings, he is dealing with issues.

01:02:07 Speaker 2

And I think personally that I think the monthly stipend for a mayor is a 3 or 350?

01:02:16 Speaker 2

\$300.

01:02:16 Speaker 2

I know that he pays more in gas to go to all the meetings and handle everything he does.

01:02:23 Speaker 2

And so this would not benefit him because it would only go into effect at the next election of the mayor coming in.

01:02:30 Speaker 2

I would propose adjusting it a little bit to where compensating him just a little bit better for his time and effort in running the day-to-day operation of the city.

01:02:39 Speaker 2

Right now it's set at \$300 and that's a maximum.

01:02:42 Speaker 2

I would propose raising that a little bit so it'd be almost like a part-time job.

01:02:46 Speaker 2

I don't know, 500, \$600 a month.

01:02:50 Speaker 2

to where he's at least covering his gas and some of his time.

01:02:54 Speaker 2

But like I said, your current mayor will not benefit from that.

01:02:58 Speaker 2

He'd be the person that would be elected in the next two years.

01:03:02 Speaker 2

That's what I'm looking at proposing people like it's a lot of pressure and a lot of work and a lot of time.

01:03:09 Speaker 2

We've grown, we've got far more departments and a lot more to take care of than it was back in 1930 or 1935.

01:03:17 Speaker 7

Or even just 20 years ago.

01:03:18 Speaker 2

20 years, yeah.

01:03:19 Speaker 7

Let me ask you this.

01:03:24 Speaker 7

What are local mayors doing?

01:03:28 Speaker 8

I think-- That's what I was going to ask.

01:03:29 Speaker 7

I think Dullesville's 400 a month.

01:03:31 Speaker 7

I don't know.

01:03:33 Speaker 2

That's something to look at.

01:03:34 Speaker 2

I was working on the sewer stuff.

01:03:37 Speaker 7

Bringing it up to comparable scale of comparable cities.

01:03:40 Speaker 2

Yes, that's what I want to do next is call around and see what they're going to find.

01:03:45 Speaker 2

I don't think we can just pull up online and go.

01:03:48 Speaker 8

Yes, you could if we were in that program, but we are not in that program.

01:03:52 Speaker 7

I think it's probably public record even.

01:03:56 Speaker 6

But we'd like to find out and see what.

01:03:57 Speaker 7

There's some there's some fact checker out there running that on Google.

01:04:01 Speaker 7

I guarantee you.

01:04:03 Speaker 2

So there's something to discuss that we can further discuss.

01:04:05 Speaker 2

I'd like to look at that, see what comfortable cities are.

01:04:09 Speaker 2

paying their mayor and see about adjusting.

01:04:12 Speaker 7

What do y'all consider your most comparable city?

01:04:16 Speaker 7

Population wise, business wise, activity?

01:04:19 Speaker 7

If you had to guess.

01:04:25 Speaker 7

Coopertown.

01:04:26 Speaker 4

They have a lot of industry.

01:04:28 Speaker 2

A lot more land.

01:04:28 Speaker 5

Bigger than us?

01:04:29 Speaker 4

Yeah, they have a lot more land.

01:04:31 Speaker 2

We're right in the middle, I think.

01:04:32 Speaker 2

They got a business district.

01:04:34 Speaker 4

They have the largest land mass.

01:04:35 Speaker 3

They have not any industry at all,

01:04:38 Speaker 3

I wish you were probably close to the National City, maybe.

01:04:41 Speaker 4

They have more business.

01:04:44 Speaker 2

Well, I cross Plains.

01:04:46 Speaker 2

I don't say word.

01:04:48 Speaker 7

Cross Plains is probably pretty comparable.

01:04:50 Speaker 2

I'm saying population-wise.

01:04:52 Speaker 2

It may be a larger name, but the population.

01:04:57 Speaker 7

Doesn't have any more business.

01:04:59 Speaker 8

Cross Plains has no residential properties.

01:05:04 Speaker 2

Can we do some checking on comfortable cities and with the mayor so we can look and see it?

01:05:09 Speaker 2

I just know that Tim works very hard.

01:05:12 Speaker 2

He'll never benefit from it.

01:05:13 Speaker 2

I'd like to see that the next mayor maybe.

01:05:17 Speaker 7

Well, then what I would suggest, what I would do is I would get that charter portion that talks about the salaries.

01:05:24 Speaker 7

It's charter, isn't it?

01:05:25 Speaker 7

Or is it an ordinance?

01:05:28 Speaker 6

It's charter.

01:05:29 Speaker 6

It's in the charter.

01:05:31 Speaker 7

Thought so which is odd it's in the Charter because then you every time you want to raise it you got to which means the last amendments appear to have been what I'm seeing is probably 1993 so you're looking at almost 25 years.

01:05:49 Speaker 8

What we put in something that he could um whoever's in that office could get at least reimbursement for the gas.

01:05:57 Speaker 6

A gas allowance is that is that possible?

01:06:00 Speaker 8

Why not?

01:06:00 Speaker 2

You have to keep up with your mileage.

01:06:02 Speaker 7

I think it's a mileage thing.

01:06:03 Speaker 1

Yeah.

01:06:07 Speaker 1

And I think quite honestly that with the mileage, it'd be much more substantial than what he was referring to as far as a \$100 increase.

01:06:17 Speaker 2

Or I should say it was \$500 a month.

01:06:18 Speaker 1

It costs the city quite a bit more.

01:06:21 Speaker 7

Yeah, you know, you can get one of those little links.

01:06:25 Speaker 7

And the question is, does that apply to all, that would take me apply to all of them.

01:06:33 Speaker 7

What I would do is get that portion of the charter that also would have to be amended with regard to that, and we would just basically leave that number blank for the date of the final determination, plug it in, and then submit it.

01:06:49 Speaker 7

So we'll do that.

01:06:51 Speaker 7

That's easy.

01:06:53 Speaker 8

Getting back to the merit,

01:06:56 Speaker 8

There was a point when Gary came in and gave a little spiel was way back and he said that we were not covered in our own vehicles when we are on the road doing any city business.

01:07:11 Speaker 8

Why wouldn't the, and there is a portion in the, I haven't looked at it recently, the insurance policy that only listed certain departments

01:07:25 Speaker 8

that were covered, maybe that would also, you know, I mean, come on, if you're driving all over the place and you get into a wreck, shouldn't the city at least cover some of your liability or.

01:07:39 Speaker 7

Yeah, I think that's just an insurance.

01:07:42 Speaker 1

Change.

01:07:43 Speaker 7

Yeah, just get that, you know, get that endorsement where they're just gonna add you, you know?

01:07:50 Speaker 3

You can always buy it.

01:07:51 Speaker 7

He's kind of like an owner's, my employee goes...

01:07:54 Speaker 7

He's kind of like my employee goes to the post office box.

01:08:01 Speaker 2

That was a joke, by the way.

01:08:02 Speaker 5

No one's buying an escalate for the maiden.

01:08:08 Speaker 3

That will be on Facebook tomorrow.

01:08:09 Speaker 5

Dale, I'm going to clarify, nobody is advocating buying an escalator for the mayor.

01:08:15 Speaker 2

Come on around.

01:08:17 Speaker 7

Well, you could get an old beater and keep it out back and pull up here and get in.

01:08:23 Speaker 6

That's why we're not driving.

01:08:26 Speaker 1

I'd like to make a comment in regards to what John was referring to.

01:08:33 Speaker 1

And I really don't know how to make this other than to say

01:08:36 Speaker 1

Look, I didn't get into this with money.

01:08:39 Speaker 1

And a person coming into office shouldn't be looking to come in for a fat paycheck.

01:08:47 Speaker 1

You know, even if it's \$300 or \$400 or whatever.

01:08:53 Speaker 1

Our purpose is to serve y'all to the best of our ability.

01:08:59 Speaker 1

Compensation should not matter.

01:09:01 Speaker 1

That's just my.

01:09:03 Speaker 2

Yeah, but you shouldn't pay for the privilege of doing that as well.

01:09:07 Speaker 2

That's part of the job.

01:09:08 Speaker 2

That's my opinion.

01:09:09 Speaker 1

That should be, that's part of the job.

01:09:11 Speaker 2

I know, and I'd like to say this, and I'll shut up.

01:09:14 Speaker 1

Part of the experience, let's put it.

01:09:17 Speaker 2

I'll shut up.

01:09:18 Speaker 2

We tabled the retirement portion for the next, you know, but then we get the rest of that in.

01:09:24 Speaker 2

But the retirement and trying to look at the employees, that was an idea from the mayor.

01:09:31 Speaker 2

looking out for the assets that this city has.

01:09:35 Speaker 2

We've got a lot of assets in this city.

01:09:36 Speaker 2

We've got buildings, we've got parks, and he views the employees as assets, as any good business owner is.

01:09:43 Speaker 2

You're only as good as the employees that work for you.

01:09:46 Speaker 2

So he proposed this, trying to do something retirement-wise for the employees to take care of them, to take care of the assets that this city has.

01:09:56 Speaker 2

And I think every person that has labored for a long time

01:10:00 Speaker 2

is truly valuable so I I want you to know it came from him and nobody else he proposed it it was his idea and we've been discussing it so it's your fault it's his fault I'll take it nobody else so you don't don't don't look at anybody else that's driven this from Mayor Tim Shaw and I'm not against it because you know I I spent 10 years in corporate finance I was only good at as good as the employees that worked with me so that's what I got.

01:10:30 Speaker 8

Everybody's a sound.

01:10:34 Speaker 8

I really feel that going backwards is not our responsibility to anybody.

01:10:39 Speaker 8

We all have jobs that we've taken and didn't have this or didn't have that.

01:10:43 Speaker 8

And if we didn't like it, we moved on.

01:10:46 Speaker 8

And although they are assets, obviously it's not keeping them here because they haven't gone anywhere else.

01:10:51 Speaker 8

And as far as recruiting, when you get recruited, you know what you're getting.

01:10:58 Speaker 8

So for the citizens to have to pay the money to go backwards and buy out previous years, I do not believe that's an option for the citizens to pay that out of their taxes.

01:11:12 Speaker 2

I have something I'd like to say to that at a later date when we're ready to present everything.

01:11:18 Speaker 2

So I'm going to table my comments till later, okay?

01:11:23 Speaker 7

So everybody

01:11:26 Speaker 7

Kelly is going to send you this red line version in PDF.

01:11:31 Speaker 7

Okay.

01:11:31 Speaker 7

Read it, look at it, go through it.

01:11:34 Speaker 7

It's not a bad read.

01:11:35 Speaker 7

We'll put you to sleep and see if you got any other thoughts that go into it.

01:11:43 Speaker 7

If you have any questions that we can.

01:11:45 Speaker 8

I think you did a really good job on it.

01:11:47 Speaker 7

Well, thank you.

01:11:52 Speaker 2

Okay, adjourn us.

01:11:54 Speaker 5

I make a motion we adjourn.

01:11:56 Speaker 3

I will second that.

01:11:57 Speaker 1

Any discussion?

01:12:00 Speaker 2

We got 20 minutes.