



**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AGENDA
CHESTER R. MARTIN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
141 OAK STREET, TAUNTON, MA 02780**

~
APRIL 29, 2014 - 7:00 PM

**INVOCATION
ROLL CALL
RECORDS**

HEARING:

Continued Hearing – Submitted by Verizon New England and Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant proposing to relocate P12 Washington Street and remove/abandon poles 9, 10, and 11 Washington St. Taunton.

- Com. from the City Clerk – Requesting information.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Meet in Executive Session to discuss ongoing Collective Bargaining Negotiations.

APPOINTMENTS

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICERS

- Pg. 1-2 Com. from City Solicitor – Submitting information on 437 Washington Street – Fire Watch.
- Pg. 3 Com. from Executive Director/Retirement System – Submitting Annual Statement for the Financial Condition of the City of Taunton Contributory Retirement System. (extra packet)
- Pg. 4 Com. from the Veterans Director Agent – Requesting additional Funding.
- Pg. 5 Com. from Conservation Agent – Submitting update on Mill River Dam.

TAUNTON, MA
CITY CLERK

2014 APR 25 A 11:03

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Pg. 6 Com. from St. Anthony's Parish, 126 School Street, Taunton –
Requesting permission to hold a Procession.

Pg. 7-10 Com. from Taunton Municipal Network – Submitting requested
Status report of the Municipal Network.

PETITIONS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDERS, ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Resolution Designating Public Depository and Authorizing Withdrawal of Municipal
Public Moneys – Student Activity Account-Signatures of Matthew Mattos-Headmaster
And Brian Green-Bookkeeper.

NEW BUSINESS

Respectfully submitted,



**Rose Marie Blackwell
City Clerk**

Hearing



City Clerk's Office

City of Taunton

Temporary City Hall

141 Oak Street

Massachusetts 02780, U.S.A.

Telephone 508-821-1024

Fax 508-821-1098

Cityclerk@tmlp.net

Rose Marie Blackwell
City Clerk

Jennifer L. Leger
Assistant City Clerk

April 16, 2014

Mr. Daryl Crossman
Right of Way Manager
Verizon
385 Myles Standish Boulevard
Taunton, MA 02780

Dear Mr. Crossman:

At a regular meeting of the Municipal Council held on Tuesday, April 15, 2014 a motion was made to continue the hearing on the petition of Verizon and the Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant for the relocation of P12 Washington Street and remove/abandon – poles 9, 10, & 11 Washington Street until **Tuesday, April 29, 2014 at 7:00 PM** in the Chester R. Martin Municipal Council Chambers, 141 Oak Street, Taunton.

This continuation was requested so that you could provide the Council with answers to the following:

- Councilor Pottier asked if any assurance could be provided that all poles being replaced will be ADA compliant.
- Councilor Marshall asked if you could provide a timeframe for the removal of the double poles as the community is extremely unhappy with the double poles in the City that Verizon has yet to remove.

Additionally, a motion was made to refer to the Department of Public Works Commissioner and MassDOT regarding the concerns of Raymond and Stanley Sidor on the attached communication.

Lastly, a motion was made to ask MassDOT if they will be installing underground conduit as if they will, there would be no concern about ADA compliance.

Hearing

Continued Pole Location Hearing
Page 2

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

RM Blackwell

Rose Marie Blackwell

City Clerk

On Behalf of the Municipal Council

Attachment

Cc: Fred Cornaglia, Commissioner, Department of Public Works
MassDOT

Hearing

April 14, 2014

Raymond F. Sidor
Stanley J. Sidor
55 Washington Street
Taunton, Mass. 02780

Mayor Thomas C. Hoye, Jr. &
Members of the Municipal Council
141 Oak Street
Taunton, Mass. 02780

RE: Petition Verizon New England, Inc.

Dear Mayor Hoye and Council Members:

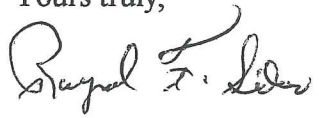
RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
2014 APR 14 P 1:13
TAUNTON, MA
CITY CLERK

Upon reviewing the site plans provided by Verizon New England, Inc. to the City Council, there are no documents from Verizon's LSP explaining how they will address possible hazardous substances in the soil and groundwater at this subject site. Attached are a few documents indicating some hazards. What is their plan?

Recently, Columbia Gas of Massachusetts was working in the Court Street area. Near 2:30A.M, you could hear a backhoe break-up thick pieces of asphalt, left from earlier work in the previous day. We would ask the Council to have any contractor work within reasonable hours.

We would like to thank the Mayor and Council Members in advance, for their assistance in this matter.

Enclosures: TMC-01-14 to 05-14

Yours truly,

Raymond F. Sidor


Stanley J. Sidor

Hearing

Falmouth oxidizer uses electricity as the combustion proponent. Both systems are capable of treating 300 cfm of off-gas air stream. The thermal oxidizer size, and possible enhancement using catalytic oxidation, will be evaluated after the initial period of system operation, and evaluation of SVE soil gas stream extraction flow rate(s). The SVE soil gas stream will also be treated using thermal/catalytic oxidation. Treatment of air stripping off-gas and SVE soil gas streams will be performed in accordance with 310 CMR 40.0049 and MA DEP Policy #WSC-94-150 *Off-Gas Treatment of Point-Source Remedial Air Emissions*.

6.10 Soil Vapor Extraction

Penmoni anticipates that SVE will be utilized as the primary remedial technology for the remediation of gasoline-contaminated soil. The apparent extent and depth of contamination, and the proximity of contamination to buildings, Court and Washington Streets, and utility lines and structures, indicate soil excavation probably would require shoring and would be very expensive.

Soil on the disposal site appears to be suitable for SVE. It is expected that the radius of influence around an extraction well will range from 20 to 30+ feet, at a total blower vacuum of 10 to 20 inches of water column, and volumetric flow rate of 60 to 100 cfm. The contaminants of concern (BTEX and MTBE) are volatile and have high vapor pressures. Components of the SVE system will include extraction wells, piping, moisture trap, particulate filter, blower and associated gauges and valves. SVE wells and associated piping probably will be constructed of 2-inch diameter schedule 40 PVC materials. The SVE soil gas stream will be treated by thermal/catalytic combustion. The SVE blower will be interlocked with the oxidizer, so that it will automatically be shut down if the oxidizer shuts down. Design and details of the SVE system will be presented to the MA DEP in an addendum to this IRA Plan.

Although SVE extraction wells and piping will be installed as soon as possible, to promote efficiency of systems construction, it is anticipated that the SVE system will not be brought on line until after the NAPL and groundwater recovery and treatment systems have been finalized, and operations have been normalized.

A schedule for SVE installation and startup will be provided in the addendum to this IRA Plan. MA DEP and the Fire Department approvals, and the NOI/OOC are required for implementation of SVE.

7.0 REMEDIATION WASTE

On Monday, August 25, 1997, approximately 300 cubic yards of gasoline-contaminated soil were removed for off-site recycling under Bill-of-Lading. Additional contaminated soil will be generated during UST installation, and will be removed from the Site within 21 days of the last date of generation.

Hearing

and MH-9, respectively, located in Court Street. Manhole covers were removed from MH-2 and MH-6 and the manholes were allowed to vent to the atmosphere until PID readings lowered. On June 18, 1998, Pennoni notified the DEP and the Taunton Fire Department.

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~~g~~
On July 21, 1998, Taunton Municipal Light and Power (TMLP) personnel responded to the report of an explosion in a manhole located adjacent to the southeastern side of the Boys and Girls Club. Subsequently the Taunton Fire Department notified Pennoni of potential gasoline vapor migration into utilities in the vicinity of the Site. On July 21, 1998, Pennoni notified the DEP of a potential Imminent Hazard and immediately initiated monitoring of utilities and nearby buildings using a PID and explosimeter. Elevated PID readings and explosimeter readings exceeding the Imminent Hazard criteria of 10% of the Lower Explosive Limit (LEL) were detected in manholes MH-8 and MH-9 located in Court Street directly southwest of 53 Court Street. On July 21, 1998, Pennoni notified the DEP of a confirmed Imminent Hazard. Active and passive venting of manholes in the vicinity of the 53 Court Street were conducted by TMLP and Pennoni until PID and explosimeter readings decreased.

Utilities and downgradient properties are currently being monitored on a daily and weekly basis for volatile vapors and explosive levels using a PID. On July 24, 1998, Pennoni initiated installation of a soil vapor extraction system, which is scheduled to be operational by August 1, 1998.

5. Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids. Reportedly, NAPL was first detected in microwell point VP-4 installed by KVA in 1993. NAPL has been observed in well MW-1 (destroyed) on several occasions. MW-1 was formerly located near the southeastern portion of the recovery trench. In February of 1997, NAPL was detected in MW-1 at an approximate thickness of 1/4 inch. In July 1997, during performance of the Phase I ISI, approximately 1-foot of NAPL was measured in monitoring well MW-1. In August 1997, NAPL was observed in test pits excavated on the Site. On July 7, 1998, NAPL was detected in MW-11 at a thickness of 0.51 foot. Subsequent NAPL recovery reduced the NAPL thickness to approximately 0.02 feet. Monitoring activities conducted as part of the IRA, Phase I ISI and SRME have detected NAPL in on-site monitoring wells at thicknesses greater than 1 foot. Depth to groundwater and NAPL thickness are gauged twice monthly as part of IRA activities.

The approximate extent of NAPL is illustrated on Figure 6 - Approximate Area of NAPL. NAPL gauge data is presented in Table 2.

3.F. MIGRATION PATHWAYS AND EXPOSURE POTENTIAL

1. Evidence and Potential for Oil and/or Hazardous Material Migration



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

Southeast Regional Office • 20 Riverside Drive, Lakeville MA 02347 • 508-946-2700

DEVAL L. PATRICK
Governor

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
Lieutenant Governor

RICHARD K. SULLIVAN JR.
Secretary

KENNETH L. KIMMELL
Commissioner

March 4, 2011

Mr. David Pascucci, Treasurer
Admiral Metals
11 Forbes Road
Woburn, MA 01081

RE: TAUNTON
Release Tracking Number: 4-0020172
Admiral Metals
14-17 Park Street
APPLICATION OF REMEDIAL ADDITIVES

Dear Mr. Pascucci:

The Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) is in receipt of a Phase IV Remedy Implementation Plan (Phase IV RIP), dated December 10, 2010, regarding the Admiral Metals facility located at 14-17 Park Street in Taunton, Massachusetts (the Site). The Phase IV RIP was prepared and submitted to MassDEP, on your behalf, by Resource Control Associates, Inc. According to information contained in the Phase IV RIP, response actions are being conducted in response to the observance of a petroleum sheen on the Mill River, which is located downgradient from the Site. Response actions have included the assessment and excavation of impacted soils, passive bailing of light non-aqueous phase liquid (LNAPL) in several monitoring wells and the installation of an LNAPL interceptor trench. As outlined in the Phase IV RIP, additional response actions, including the application of Remedial Additives to groundwater via monitoring wells located at the Site, are proposed. Written approval is required from MassDEP prior to implementing the proposed remedial actions pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0046(3), because at least one of the proposed injection locations is located within 50 feet of a surface water body.

BACKGROUND

On November 25, 2009, a Phase II Comprehensive Site Assessment Report and Phase III Remedial Action Plan, prepared by Resource Control Associates, Inc., was submitted to MassDEP for the Site. The Comprehensive Remedial Action selected to address the LNAPL was passive recovery. The Phase IV RIP, as modified by a February 4, 2001 email communication to MassDEP from Resource Control Associates, Inc., proposes surfactant enhanced fluid recovery of LNAPL utilizing up to 600 gallons of a 3% commercially-available surfactant solution that would be injected at 4 monitoring well locations at the Site. Based on information provided in the Phase IV RIP, the recovery goal would be 3 times the volume of surfactant injected (up to 1,800 gallons of LNAPL and impacted groundwater). Within two days following the injection, a vacuum truck would be mobilized to evacuate LNAPL and water from each of the injection wells. During the vacuum extraction, the following parameters would be evaluated: water and vapor flow rates from the extraction well, vacuum and water level responses in surrounding wells, total organic vapor concentration in vapor, total fluids recovered and total LNAPL.

recovered. Prior to the injection event, a baseline groundwater sampling round would be collected and analyzed for total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) and methyl blue active substances (MBAS). Biweekly groundwater monitoring would be conducted for up to 6 months following the final recovery event and groundwater samples would be collected monthly from the injection wells.

DETERMINATION

Based on the information provided to MassDEP to date, there is insufficient information necessary to demonstrate that the proposed application of Remedial Additives can be conducted in compliance with the provisions of 310 CMR 40.0046. As such, MassDEP hereby denies the application of Remedial Additives as proposed in the Phase IV RIP. MassDEP's denial is based on the following:

1. The Comprehensive Remedial Action (CRA) proposed in the Phase IV RIP is not the CRA selected in the Phase III Remedial Action Plan submitted previously for the Site.
2. There is insufficient information in the Phase IV RIP regarding the measures to be implemented to avoid any deleterious impact on environmental receptors, particularly the Mill River.
3. There is insufficient information in the Phase IV RIP regarding how the groundwater will be monitored hydraulically upgradient and downgradient, after each application of Remedial Additives, to detect any migration of oil/or hazardous material, Remedial Additives and/or Remedial Additive by-products.
4. The Phase IV RIP does not state how the selected remedial action will ensure that concentrations of Remedial Additives and/or Remedial Additive by products in the groundwater will not exceed applicable standards or Massachusetts Ground Water Quality Standards at any point measured 50 feet or more downgradient, as required by 310 CMR 40.0046(1)(b).
5. The Phase IV RIP does not include a complete Operation, Maintenance and/or Monitoring Plan (OMM) as required by 310 CMR 40.0874(3)(d).
6. The Phase IV RIP does not document the engineering concepts and design criteria to be used for the design and construction of the Comprehensive Remedial Action as required by 310 CMR 40.0874(3)(b)(6).

Based on these findings, MassDEP hereby requests that you submit the following, should you seek to implement the proposed application of Remedial Additives at the Site:

1. Additional information regarding the groundwater flow rate and any additional geologic and hydrogeologic characteristics at the Site, including the permeability of soils and the nature of bedrock, if applicable. This should include confirmation of the groundwater elevations in order to determine appropriate locations for the installation of downgradient monitoring points.
2. Additional information to support the Phase IV RIP, including, but not limited to:
 - a. A disposal site map illustrating subsurface utilities and any other features which may be impacted by the application of Remedial Additives.
 - b. Sufficient information to demonstrate that hydraulic control will be established at the Site or provide a sufficient strategy to address the potential migration of any oil,

Hearing

Remedial Additives or any Remedial Additive by products at the Site. If the LNAPL interceptor trench is intended to be used for this purpose, provide a detailed explanation of the functioning of the trench must be provided.

- l*
- c. An OMM plan specifying which monitoring wells will be monitored both upgradient and downgradient of the application of Remedial Additives. The OMM plan should consider all contaminants of concern, including metals.
 - d. Sufficient information to demonstrate that Remedial Additives and/or Remedial Additive byproducts will not exceed applicable standards at a distance of 50 feet or greater downgradient from the points of application of the Remedial Additives.

l 3. Additional information to ensure the effectiveness of the proposed remedial action including:

- a. a demonstration that the smear zone will not increase from drawdown by the mobile vacuum extraction system;
- b. a determination of the capture zone of the mobile vacuum extraction system;
- c. the rationale for the volume of fluids extracted and the timing of the extraction;
- d. any information pertaining to how hydraulic control will be maintained at the Site;
- e. the details of the injection strategy, including the depth of the injections;
- f. the rationale for the volume of surfactants which will be used in each injection well;
- g. if applicable, identification of utilities or preferential pathways located downgradient of the injection wells; and,
- h. information from pilot or treatability tests, similar operations or scientific literature to demonstrate how the selected remedial action will achieve the remedial goals at the Site.

Please note that if you choose not to implement the remedial actions described in the Phase IV RIP, additional response actions and/or submittals will be required to comply with 310 CMR 40.0000. This Site shall not be deemed to have had all of the necessary and required response actions taken unless and until all substantial hazards have been eliminated and a level of No Significant Risk exists or has been achieved in compliance with M.G.L. c.21E and the MCP.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice, please contact Julia Sechen at (508) 946-2791. Please reference the Release Tracking Number, RTN 4-0020172 in any future correspondence to MassDEP regarding the Site.

Sincerely,

Molly Coté FOR

Leonard J. Pinaud, Chief
State & Federal Site Management
Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

P/JS/lg

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CERTIFIED MAIL # 7010 0780 0000 6738 1796

TMC-05-14



City of Taunton

LAW DEPARTMENT

141 Oak Street

Taunton, Massachusetts 02780

Phone (508) 821-1036 Facsimile (508) 821-1397



Thomas C. Hoye, Jr.
MAYOR

Jason D. Buffington
CITY SOLICITOR

Daniel F. de Abreu
ASST. CITY SOLICITOR

April 24, 2014

Honorable Mayor Thomas C. Hoye, Jr.
Members of the Taunton Municipal Council
141 Oak Street
Taunton MA 02780

RE: Fire Watch – 437 Whittenton Street

Dear Mayor Hoye and Members of the Municipal Council:

Enclosed please find two checks totaling \$40,000 payable to the City of Taunton towards the fire watch arrearage at this property. These funds were recovered in connection with on-going legal proceedings in the Bankruptcy Court. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Very truly yours,

Jason D. Buffington, Esq.
City Solicitor

cc: Timothy Bradshaw, Fire Chief
Barbara Auger, Treasurer/Collector

2.

ATTORNEY DANIEL I COTTON
IOLTA ACCOUNT
390 MAIN ST
WORCESTER, MA 01608

4541
53-261/113

DATE 4/23/14

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

City of TAUNTON

\$ 38,000.00

Thirty Eight Thousand and 00/100

DOLLARS



FLAGSHIP BANK
WORCESTER, MA 01608

FOR

Upgrades

David I Cotton

MP

⑈004541⑈ ⑆011302616⑆ ⑆0100⑆ 2086⑆ 7⑆

DAVID L MURPHY
25 JEFFERSON ROAD
BROOKLINE, MA 02467

60-7269/2313

192

DATE April 23, 2014 ShieldSM

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

City of Taunton
Five Thousand

\$ 5,000.00

DOLLARS



Sovereign Bank, N.A.
PART OF THE SANTANDER GROUP

MEMO

Upgrades

MP

⑆231372691⑆ 2107759014⑆ 0192

GRAYSTONE



3,

CITY OF TAUNTON
Contributory Retirement System
40 Dean Street, Unit 3
Taunton, Massachusetts 02780
Tel (508) 821-1052 Fax (508) 821-1063
www.tauntonretirement.com

**BOARD OF
RETIREMENT**

Chairperson:
Ann Marie Hebert, City Auditor

Elected member: Richard T. Avila
Elected member: Peter H. Corr
Mayoral appointee: Gill E. Enos
Board appointee: A. Joan Ventura

STAFF

**Executive
Director:**
Paul J. Slivinski

**Assistant
Director:**
Kathy A. Maki

April 18, 2014

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission
Mr. Joseph Connarton, Executive Director
5 Middlesex Avenue, Suite 304
Somerville, MA. 02145

Dear Mr. Connarton:

Enclosed is the Annual Statement for the Financial Condition of the City of Taunton Contributory Retirement System for the year ended December 31, 2013. The Annual Statement was approved by the Taunton Retirement Board at its meeting on April 17, 2014. This statement is being submitted in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 32, § 20(5)h, § 23(1)c and § 23(2)e.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Respectfully yours,

Paul J. Slivinski
Executive Director

cc: Hon. Thomas C. Hoye Jr., Mayor
Taunton Municipal Council
Taunton Municipal Light Plant
Treasurer-collector
City Auditor
Taunton Housing Authority
Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority
Dahab Associates

Encl.

4.



Bolivar Rubiano Sr.
Director/Agent
508 821-1038

CITY OF TAUNTON
MASSACHUSETTS 02780

Veterans Service Department
And
Information Center

April 23, 2014

Honorable Mayor Thomas Hoye and the
Municipal Council

Dear Sirs and Madams:

It is now necessary for this office to request an additional \$130,000.00 in funding for our Veterans Benefits Account #1-543-202-5770.

As you are all aware, it is impossible to know exactly what our expenses will be from month to month but we believe the above amount will sufficiently complete our Benefits account for this fiscal year.

The State will reimburse the City of Taunton at a rate of 75%, making an actual total for this request \$32,500.00.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Bolivar Rubiano, Sr.
Director Agent

/ck

cc: Gil Enos, Budget Director

5.



City of Taunton, Massachusetts
**DEPARTMENT OF
PLANNING AND CONSERVATION**

*15 Summer Street
Taunton, Massachusetts 02780*

*Kevin R Scanlon, Director/ Planner AICP
Michele Restino, Conservation Agent*

*Phone 508-821-1051
Phone 508-821-1095
Fax 508-821-1665*

April 24, 2014

Honorable Thomas Hoye, Mayor
Members of the Municipal Council
15 Summer Street
Taunton, MA 02780

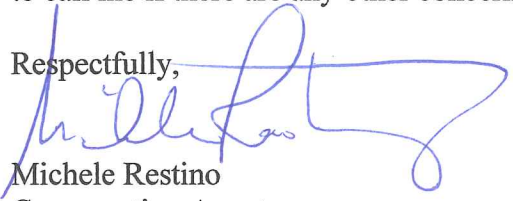
RE: Mill River Dams Update

Dear Mayor Hoye and Members of the Municipal Council,

At the Municipal Council meeting of April 15, 2014, Councilor Cleary requested an update regarding the completion of the Mill River Dam. At the former Whittenton Dam site the river is flowing well and the banks are re-vegetating well. At the site of the former State Hospital Dam, the river has re-established its channel. The vegetation is growing at a much slower rate than the site downstream. Herring, pickerel, trout, lamprey, and river eel have all been recorded upstream of the dams. This is a good sign of the re-establishment of herring to the Mill River and Snake River Watershed.

Both sites along the Mill River require a second growing season prior to receiving a Certificate of Compliance from the Conservation Commission.

Thank you for your interest in the work that has been done in restoring the Mill River. Feel free to call me if there are any other concerns.

Respectfully,

Michele Restino
Conservation Agent

St. Anthony's Parish
126 School Street
Taunton, Massachusetts 02780
Tel. 508.822.0714 Fax 508.828.5844

6.

Mayor Thomas Hoye & Members of the Taunton City Council
City Hall
15 Summer Street
Taunton, MA

April 10, 2014

RE: **Our Lady of Fatima Procession**
Saturday, May 10, 2014 at 8:00pm

Dear Mayor Hoye and Members of the Taunton City Council

First of all, I would like to thank our Mayor, our City Council Members and Police Department for the much appreciated response and assistance they always provide Saint Anthony's Parish Family and Parish sponsors, be it, Pilgrimage, Romaria Prayer Walk, or Processions in honor of Our Lady of Fatima and the Holy Spirit. We are truly grateful for your generous support. Thank you!


I, Father William M. Rodrigues, pastor of Saint Anthony Church, 126 School Street, Taunton, Massachusetts, hereby request, again this year, permission to hold a Procession in honor of Our Lady of Fatima on Saturday, May 10, 2014, immediately following 7:00pm Mass.

The following is the requested route of the procession:

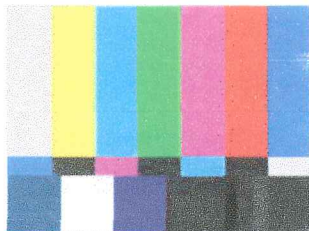
Leave the Main Entrance of the Church at approximately 8:00pm; take a RIGHT onto School Street; another RIGHT onto Washburn Street, another RIGHT onto Washington Street; another RIGHT onto Benefit Street and a final RIGHT onto School Street with return to the Church through the Main Entrance.

As in previous years, this Mass and Procession is scheduled to be televised by *The Portuguese Channel*.

Respectfully submitted,



Fr. William M. Rodrigues, Pastor



The Taunton Municipal Network

April 22, 2014

The Honorable Mayor Thomas Hoye
City Council

Dear Mayor and Councilors,

As requested by the Council, this is a report as to the status of the Taunton Municipal Network.

Through the years the Taunton Municipal Network has gone through many changes and upgrades. We started with one camera in the corner of the City Council chambers. We learned quickly that when we had a problem our viewers would let us know. We have changed the look of City government and who looks at City government.

From that single camera we were able to upgrade to a robotic three camera setup, that covered the entire council chambers and allowed more citizen viewers to see the face3s of the City government. Many of which, would not have been seen because of what their jobs are.

From this point we found a need for playback capabilities. We brought in an automated three VCR playback system. Our need for more sophisticated bulletin board was addressed with the addition of a Scala system bulletin board which is still in operation. With all this new equipment we found a need for pieces that would allow all the technology to work together seamlessly. With the issues addressed they were put in line. All this time we were connected to the cable television system through the infamous "B" trunk. The B trunk was a connection to the cable system through a coaxial line that ran to several city entities such as Martin Middle School, Bristol-Plymouth Regional Vocational High School, Taunton High School, City Hall at Summer St. and Coyle Cassidy High School, then went up to what was the original head end off of Prospect Hill St. This coax line had many amplifiers along the way to keep the signal uniform and strong. The cable companies of the day maintained that line very well.

As the years passed newer technologies and negotiation of the cable contracts allowed the cable company to abandon the local headend systems to a local hub and now a state wide headend which centralized and simplified their operations. Because of this the cable company now uses regional hubs that receive all the programming from that state headend and sends it to the regional hubs, of which ours is located in Rehoboth at the junction of Rte. 44 and Rte. 118. As we all know, technology changes on a daily basis and with that so did the cable industry. We've changed from VCR and video tape to DVDs. The cable company had changed from using coax (copper) cable to fiber optics for the transmission of their signals. On our side, that change didn't affect us too much. Any connection problems we had we dealt directly with the cable company with very satisfactory results.

Now comes that eventful day to the fire in City Hall on Summer St. At first things didn't look too bad. Then the stuff hit the fan. With the fire department and the City's various inspectors City Hall was found to be uninhabitable due to the many building code violations and not really a lot of physical damage from the fire. Basically, we were all kicked out of City Hall. We had a couple of days to pack up and get out.

The Maxiham School was identified as a *temporary* location for City Hall. We packed up and sent our equipment to the new temporary location. Now the fun begins.

The Council asked the School Department and Committee for the use of their meeting facilities at the new E. Pole School until the Maxiham school could be made ready.

Through the Taunton Educational Network (TEN), the Council was able to continue cable casting of their weekly meetings but the televising of other regular board meetings (Planning, Zoning, License, Cable) were put on hold. As we moved forward we realized that the B trunk route did not go anywhere near the Maxiham school which meant we had no connection to the cable system. We needed to find a way to connect to the cable system. Steve Jacques from TEN suggested we use a technology that he had used to connect all the schools in the city with a product called V-Brick. He had acquired his system from the TMLP. We researched the V-Brick system with the TMLP but found it to be too costly for TMN to use. We moved on from a suggestion to contacting Education Technology Resources, Inc. and purchased their system and a much more reasonable cost. This system much like the V-Brick uses a computer network to send it's signal from one point to another. A special route had to be set up as security of the city's network was a priority. The route was set and after a few more growing pains we were on. Through time we have had many outages due to peripheral equipment failures and a few network problems. Several times we have had to send the ETR equipment out for service to their service. The service has never been a financial issue but more a time element issue. The ETR service center is in New Mexico and it is on the end of the FED EX delivery route which means they don't get their next day deliveries until late in the day.

This brings us to where we are today. Today's problems have been the loss of audio and or audio quality and poor picture quality. As before, I will state that our equipment is at least 24 years old and with the aging public address equipment that the city uses, we have to expect problems to arise.

A brief explanation of the audio system for the public address system in the council chambers. This is the City's property and is not property of TMN. It is maintained by the Building Department and Mr. Tom Pestana. When we were at Summer St. the system was considered in a permanent location. It had minor problems but for the most part worked with no breakdowns. The acoustics of the council chamber at Summer St. were better and easier to control. Since our move to the temporary Maxiham location, the council chamber, which was a cafetorium, had gone through many changes and upgrades. For a PA system to work effective the setup is important. The setup of the council member seating arrangement, albeit historical, it is not the best acoustically. The PA system has had several thousands of dollars of upgrades to make it just useable. Carpet has been added to the hard surface walls and floor which has helped quite a bit but the system still sits on the edge of major feedback. Feedback is when a microphone picks up sound from a nearby speaker or an echo from a nearby speaker due to volume or conditions in the facility. Our feeling s that the Council member seating should be addressed or changed for the remodeling/rebuilding of the Summer St. City Hall. Another issue with the PA system is there are 21 microphones being used by the system and the are all on and live with the mics facing in all directions, picking up sounds from all over the room. This is a classic setup for feedback. Another thing is proper use. The proper use of a microphone makes the system work properly and effectively.

The audio quality problem that TMN had was a simple connection at Summer St. where we connect into the cable system. The room where the equipment is stored is shared with the TMLP and the City's network connections. It was found that a single wire had broken down to a single strand making signal flow extremely restricted. A simple cleaning of the end of the wire and replacing it into it's proper spot simply fixed the problem. Equipment in this room is moved frequently by all parties and probably led to this situation happening. Precautions have been take to eliminate this problem.

This brings us up to date and what our plans are for the future. As the City moves forward in the rebuilding of the Summer St. City Hall, TMN will rebuild also. During the preliminary design plans of Summer St. it was requested that TMN be allowed to have input as to the requirements for a television production facility. We did so and after looking at the preliminary drawings, we have found that we will have a room with a separate entrance so that any work we need to do will not impact any other departments. There are a lot more design factors that we hope to bring to light when final plans are started.

Moving forward now, new technology has changed greatly and will hopefully be able to purchase *more up to date and sophisticated cameras and production equipment*. But if the connection to the cable companies doesn't improve the all the high quality equipment will be for not. The link into the cable system must be brought up to the 21st century.

Our equipment goal is to obtain new high definition cameras and production switcher which will allow us to give the cable companies the best quality picture and sound possible even though we will not have an HD channel. By FCC regulations, the cable companies are only required to put access channels on the basic tier of their systems which in most cases is standard definition. Until the federal government decides to change this, the chance for extremely superior picture quality, such as your larger networks or movie channels is unlikely. Our goal is to give the cable company a signal the will surpass their requirements for signal thus forcing them to improve what they return to their paying customers.

The cameras that we are looking for will be state of the art HD robotic cameras. We hope to purchase at least three as we have now. but other locations are being researched to see if their placement would be viable and useful. kA new video switcher will need t be purchased for the camera. This switcher will have more inputs allowing for more camera, playback devices, and computers. We also, with the suggestion of the Mayor and Council, are looking into internet streaming and a possible video on demand system for the playback of the Council and other city meetings. The new equipment will allow us to provide a streaming signal that can be put into the internet by a service provider so that the public all over the world can watch our meetings. The video on demand playback system is being discussed with the City's IT department and will be possible after the City's upgrade to the infrastructure of the network. Also with this playback system our city departments such as the City Clerk or Clerk of Committees will be able to view meetings to be able to work on their minutes at their desks in their offices. A discussion on the cassette deck that is used for recording the meetings is also becoming aged and with cassette recording decks no longer being made and cassette tapes becoming harder to obtain this will be an added plus. This on demand system will allow departments to view the portion of meetings that they need or be able to get their documents finished in a much more timely manner as they won't have to wait for a copy of a DVD.

This is a brief history and explanation of the future of the Taunton Municipal Network. We will be moving forward with the IT department and Building department to make improvements to bring the Taunton Municipal Network into the 21st century.


The following is a description of the types of equipment and price ranges for that equipment.

HD robotic (PTZ) cameras---	\$3000 -- \$10,000 each	3 needed
Camera Controller	\$1000 -- \$5000	1 needed
Production Switcher	\$3000 -- \$10,000	1 needed
Character Generator	\$1000 -- \$6000	1 needed
Monitor TVs	\$500 -- \$2000 each	multiples needed
Misc. Cables & furniture	\$10,000	
Installation	????????	As per bid process
Modulators or network connection equipment	\$1000 -- \$7000	Equipment that will be required by connection to cable system.
<hr/>		
Estimated Totals	\$9500 -- \$60,000 +/-	

These numbers are all estimates and are not actual. Actual prices will be determined by the RFP and bid process.

Existing equipment, (screen and video projector) are being addressed so that they will be put back into use at the temporary City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,


 Greg Glynn
 Taunton Municipal Network
 Program Director.

If you have any questions or comments feel free to contact me.

Tel. 508-942-6665
Email- - gglyn@verizon.net



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TAUNTON, MA

CITY CLERK

APRIL 29, 2014

HONORABLE THOMAS C. HOYE, JR., MAYOR
COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANDREW J. MARSHALL
AND MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

PLEASE NOTE:

THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEETINGS HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2014 AT 5:30 P.M. AT THE TEMPORARY CITY HALL AT MAXHAM SCHOOL, 141 OAK STREET, TAUNTON, MA. 02780, IN THE CHESTER R. MARTIN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

5:30 P.M.

THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE & SALARIES

1. MEET TO REVIEW THE WEEKLY VOUCHERS & PAYROLLS FOR CITY DEPARTMENTS
2. MEET TO REVIEW REQUESTS FOR FUNDING
3. MEET TO REVIEW MATTERS IN FILE

PLEASE NOTE:

A "MEETING" OF THE ENTIRE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, AS SAID TERM IS DEFINED IN MASS. GEN. L. C. 30A, §18 MAY OCCUR CONCURRENTLY WITH THIS COMMITTEE MEETING

THE COMMITTEE ON DISABILITIES (ADA)

1. MEET FOR AN UPDATE ON THE HANDICAPPED FINES ACCOUNT
2. MEET WITH KEVIN SCANLON FOR AN UPDATE ON THE TRANSITION REPORT
3. MEET TO REVIEW MATTERS

PLEASE NOTE:

A "MEETING" OF THE ENTIRE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, AS SAID TERM IS DEFINED IN MASS. GEN. L. C. 30A, §18 MAY OCCUR CONCURRENTLY WITH THIS COMMITTEE MEETING

THE COMMITTEE ON FIRES AND WIRES

1. MEET TO RECOMMEND THREE FULL TIME FIREFIGHTERS
2. MEET TO REVIEW MATTERS IN FILE

PLEASE NOTE:

**A "MEETING" OF THE ENTIRE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, AS SAID TERM IS
DEFINED IN MASS. GEN. L. C. 30A, §18 MAY OCCUR CONCURRENTLY WITH
THIS COMMITTEE MEETING**

RESPECTFULLY,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colleen M. Ellis".

COLLEEN M. ELLIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES