

RM of Springfield Special Meeting
February 8, 2024 6 p.m.

WITHOUT PREJUDICE (E&OE)

LENGTH OF MEETING 4 hours 15 minutes

2. CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Therrien – Ladies and gentlemen, we're ready to start uh the Special Meeting here. We're going to call this uh Special Meeting to order. Uh the date is uh February the 8th of 2024 at exactly uh 6 uh p.m. Um I'd like to uh present uh our Council um in descending uh order, I'm uh Patrick Therrien, the Mayor for the RM of Springfield and to my right is Deputy Mayor and Councillor uh Ward 1 Glen Fuhl, uh next is uh Councillor Ward 2 Andy Kuczynski, uh Councillor Ward 3 is uh Mark Miller, and Councillor Ward 4 is uh Melinda Warren. That's the other part I was going to get. Can we ensure that everybody has their uh phones on silent. Uh if you have your hat on **there**, please remove your hat before the meeting starts. So in anticipation of a large crowd uh it's uh we have monitors right in the foyer area **there** should they be required as well as 2 monitors, uh we're just asking for decorum and respect uh uh for tonight's uh meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA - Mayor Therrien – Um at this point uh here we'll continue with the Agenda. Uh I just got a note uh here um I don't know if anybody knows their license plate number but HD...HND185 the interior lights are on. Um not there's no make or model on that **there** so ...it's a brown Chevy, brown Chevy, ok. Then uh **at this point here** uh uh it's Brent, right. Right on, Brent. (laughing) Details. So uh if I can uh, we'll get to Item Number 3 uh on the Special Meeting, that's Approval of the Agenda, can I get a mover and a seconder uh for that uh please. Melinda and Glen (Warren/Fuhl). **Colleen Draper, CAO** – *Be it resolved the agenda be approved.* **Mayor Therrien** – Is there any uh uh matters uh to be added or deleted or any points of order??? Can I get a show uh **there** for Approval of the Agenda? And that's unanimous.

4. PUBLIC HEARING RE: BORROWING BY-LAW 24-01 – DUGALD OAKBANK WATER SUPPLY TREATMENT PLANT – NOTE: The letter of support is from people with the same surname as a man from Oakbank who owns land in the Anola and probably other areas of the RM of Springfield. **Mayor Therrien** – Um now at this point here um um Special Meeting, we'll call the uh public uh hearing uh to order. Uh um instead of uh uh introductions here with regards to what uh is anticipated uh thank you for attending the public uh hearing regarding By-law um number, borrowing by-law number 24-01 for the Dugald Oakbank Water System Water Plant project. Um our Procedural By-law allows uh speakers uh 10 minutes to present. Uh seeing how many people are in attendance, uh we want to be sure everybody has an opportunity to speak and to be heard. Uh if your question has been asked or answered by another presenter, please respect our...the time um and do not ask the uh same question. Uh questions will be directed to myself uh uh the Chair and the person the best suited to answer the question will be called upon um to answer the uh the question. Uh please be respectful of each other and do not interrupt or talk during presentations which can be disruptive to others around you. **NOTE: He would know as he often interrupts presenters.** Uh we'll be mindful of the time and ensure that we are moving along in an efficient manner. Um we are going to start uh with a Power uh point presentation from our staff, uh the Manitoba Water Services Board uh Friesen Drillers and Associated Engineers. I understand that we have one of our uh experts that may be a little bit late so uh uh we're ready for the Powerpoint presentation uh, would that be uh um who's first. It's you, Sir? You can just state your name uh Sir and the company you're from. **NOTE: A woman's voice is heard saying "You will be".** **Unidentified Male voice:** Ok. So you've gone through your introductions. Sorry? Point at me and I'll go ... **NOTE: There is a blank spot in the recording but I believe a conversation is going on that can't be heard, only microphone moving sounds.** ok. **NOTE: More background conversation.** So ready? Ok. There's a nasty echo in the back here so I'll talk ... **Ken Anderson, Associated Engineering.** Ok good evening everybody. My name is Ken Anderson of Associated Engineering. I'll be stepping in for uh Nathan, the Water Services Board is delayed with the weather so I'm going to sort of narrate his slides as best as I can to give a summary of one of the partners in this project who's the Water Services Board. So introductions are already done, we'll get to the next thing so Manitoba Water Services Board, a Crown corporation in the Province, um a branch of the Manitoba Provincial government. They operate under the Manitoba Water Services Board Act and they serve Manitoba except for Winnipeg and any Federal Acts, they're very active in this process here. They're located in Brandon, the Board of Directors, they uh ...sorry. Um Federal...they work through Federal and Provincial projects depending on the funding source and they're the local support for the Fed jobs. They work through with the Provincial Parks and Northern uh Relations in the uh communities up there so they've got about 80 to 100 water and wastewater infrastructure, infrastructure water projects they work on for a year and they have a number here for the 2022 and 2023 they tendered and awarded for 140 or almost a \$140,000,000 million dollars of work in terms of the Municipal water, wastewater projects. So their role is to provide technical and financial assistance to the rural Manitoba in the development of affordable and sustainable water and wastewater infrastructure including their own focus in that area. They have project managers on behalf of the Municipal governments and Water Cooperatives including all the cities, towns, villages, municipalities, provide engineering assistance to other branches of the Government and they uh it's as I said, they exclusively don't work on Federal lands or in the City of Winnipeg. As project managers, they conduct engineering feasibility studies, they provide design services, tender construction projects, administer the contracts of those, they provide supervision for construction, provide technical support through warranty period one year after substantial completion. So they provide those through in-house engineers that they have or they hire consultants like myself to take on some of the projects once they sort of... a hundred and forty million is a lot for their group to do alone. So they provide technical assistance, financial assistance for rural Manitobans in four areas. So then they're focusing on construction of works necessary for obtaining and treating, storing and distributing potable water, construction of works and transmitting uh potable water, so transmission lines, construct, collection, uh transmission of sewage, construction of works for the treatment and disposal of sewage so pretty much water, sewer. **Jeff Bell** – Ok, I'm Jeff, I'm a hydrogeologist for Friesen Drillers in Steinbach. Uh Friesen Drillers is uh a fairly old company, they've been around in Manitoba for 130 years. Uh we do work across Canada specifically. Uh in Manitoba we do a lot of groundwater consulting work and uh municipal water supply projects. We work a lot on pretty much every municipality around. Uh we run about 80 pieces of equipment in Manitoba, have offices all throughout Canada, you don't need to hear too much of that so. **NOTE: More background conversation.** **Ken Anderson** – Ok, so this is me speaking for myself now. I'm Ken with Associated Engineering again. So Associated Engineering, we've been around since the 1940s, we're a hundred percent Canadian company, we've got about over 1,000 people in 20 offices across Canada, and uh including our office in Winnipeg. A group of us opened, reopened the office in Winnipeg, it closed down probably in the 60s and we sort of reopened it again in 2011 so for the last 10, 12 years here in operation for 13 years now. Next slide. We've done probably over 400 wet water, wastewater projects throughout Manitoba. Um myself and the other managers, we've got probably over 30 years of experience in communities, doing water and wastewater specifically and our focus really is on these

municipal clients in 1,000 I'd say 15,000, 20,000 people is our, pretty much our expertise area of focus. So in 2021 the RM issued a competitive proposal for this project that we're on. We were successful as one of the proponents and we were awarded the contract to provide the engineering services, the design services so far for the project that's in discussion that we're going to present. But since then we've also worked with the RM on other projects, such as wastewater uh in terms of Dugald Lift Station and some force main twinning so building our relationship with the community so for the projects on the ground. **NOTE: More conversation in the background that cannot be heard.** Yep, so this was going to be on behalf of the RM sort of background here where we were going to be coming in so population growth is one of the first things we're looking at when we're dealing with uh this project so looking at the statistics. 2011 to 2021, we see the RM grew by 15%, from about 14,000 to 16,000 people, Dugald grew by almost 60% in that time, Oakbank grew by 45%. The existing treatment facilities are at or nearing their uh **NOTE: More conversation in the background.** nearing their design capacity. So the Dugald capacity is about 690 REUs. Oakbank capacity is about 1,500 REUs which we term as Residency Equivalency Units so just a sort of a measure of a per person use of water. It doesn't mean that's how many people, it just means that a certain equivalent of population is so 690 REUs, 2000 persons that eventually live there. So we needed additional capacity to address the uh combined 20 year future projection growth at the somewhat aggressive rates that you see in there. So they had a number of about 70 to 400 REUs that we're targeting or about 21,000 people so the driver for the project is the growth and demand that's eventually going to happen over the next 20 years. So what is an REU, a little bit more detail here, a Residential Equivalency Unit is about equal to 2.9 person so like a residential user, how much might be in one home and what each one of those people would use as water, it's about 200 liters per day. So you also sort of factor those for other people that aren't at home so you'll have like .9 REUs for an elementary classroom, school classroom 1.2 for Secondary, 1.0 for uh .. like 22 for a restaurant, so we sort of take these commercial/industrial, factor them in so you end up with sort of a common number of REUs. What the REUs translate to, 21,000 people, 7400 REUs, you do the math here and we end up with about 4,300 cubic meters of water use per day. The existing water supply, we have the Dugald Well Field capacity which is in a sandstone aquifer, its current capacity is about 1476 REUs, it's protected, it's confined aquifer with extension expansion opportunities. The Oakbank well capacity, the Moose Nose Aquifer's current capacity is about 1476 and it's an unconfined aquifer directly influenced by groundwater and other surface activities so it's slated for decommissioning uh due to those kind of risks that we just said there. Uh the current shortfall based on our REUs, you can see those .. add those two together and we're about 4500 REUs or 6000 REUs once we sort of remove those Oakbank wells that are there so you've got a pretty good catchup to do in terms of groundwater development. **NOTE: Just a question. When they decommission the Moose Nose Aquifer, and the aggregate companies step up their extraction, what is going to happen to those people that live in the area and have their own private wells tapped into that aquifer? Jeff Bell, Friesen Drillers –** Ok so ya, as Ken mentioned uh you know you're currently running uh the Moose Nose Ridge wells which are in an unconfined sand and gravel aquifer. Um so that, that obviously places things a little bit at risk. Uh the decision was looked at about aquifer protection and the sandstone aquifer and it's fantastic protection uh it's confined, uh there's the limestone aquifer overlying it plus the shale aquitard protects sandstone and that is the aquifer that uh the new Dugald Wells developed a few years ago. Uh I have some examples here, we show some of the hydrographs, the response of the carbonate aquifer and the sandstone aquifer. The Province twinned these stations a number of year ago prior to I think about 200...maybe 2010, those stations were all just in the limestone aquifer or the carbonate. Um we've seen fairly stable conditions all across uh Springfield over the last 20 years. **NOTE: No mention of the seepage of contaminates from the Hillside Landfill into the Moose Nose Aquifer and yet, Friesen Drillers was involved in that study.** It tends to follow the seasonal climatic conditions fairly closely. So we've given a clock there of uh climatic conditions. We have seen below average precipitation over the last number of years. Um people like my colleague Justin and I, we study these sort of hydrographs extensively, can't remember exactly how many there are in the RM but there's lots. Um that little picture at the bottom shows a typical Provincial hydrograph station uh the Province uses to measure those water levels. Ok so the sandstone aquifer is a very reliable source. Uh the sandstone aquifer is a very reliable producing aquifer. It's fairly uniform in consistency and it's ... it's a fairly straight-forward uh aquifer unlike the limestone based off of fractures. Uh it's quite an extensive, uh all throughout the southeast, it's a fairly large regional process throughout. There's a lot of storage capacity in it due to its size. Uh it receives fresh water annually, it's recharged through the Sandilands complex. Uh naturally it's confined with I'd say maybe confined twice so it has a fairly high level of protection for, for water supply. Most importantly it's what we would consider not under the influence of surface water. Uh we have certain travel times we have to look at. This aquifer provides that level of protection uh and as I say, the conditions are fairly predictable um and it does have quite a bit of expansion heading towards the southeast. **NOTE: He does not mention that the extraction and return method being proposed by Sio will endanger that protection.** Uh so this is a current shot of the site plan and it shows the response that we saw from the aquifer in the last uh test that was done. Um the aquifer has fairly uniform transmissivity. It's not overly high, the limestone is much higher so we tend to see deeper drawdown cones but extending out in a very small narrow area whereas if it's much higher transmissivity, we see a much shallower column, it has a bigger influence over a wider area but it's ... the influence is only inches so this is a kind of layout in this picture here of the new well sites that are proposed a mile south of the existing sites. Um the yellow shows the observation well network and the green that we have in there, we have about 30 observation wells, points that we're going to be taking during the testing which will confirm the performance. We're expecting it to be a fairly similar performance to what was previous so it'll have 10 multi-level stations which will monitor water levels in both the limestone and the sandstone aquifer. Six of those stations will be Provincial government stations that the Province cooperates with and allows us to use for monitoring and then we have transducers in private wells as well to record private wells when the owner is, is willing to allow us to do that. So that's all I have. Thank you. **Ken Anderson –**... that screen. I want to try to get back to a bit of the larger picture again. Next slide. It's full screen on me but you're seeing a smaller screen on display so. I don't know either but it's going to be what it's going to be... nope, I'm sorry everybody, if you're seeing a very reduced size. That's how this works. Maybe we could try this... **NOTE: Muted conversation in background.** Ok, so this is my area really, I'm the water treatment guy, the engineer so I'll give more of the discussion on what we...how we came up with the uh Water Treatment and this Plant design and capacity. So as we mentioned before, we're about 7400 REUs target capacity over the next 20 years which equates to about 4300 cubic meters of average day demand and when we size the plant, we usually take that number and factor it out, often it's between one and a half to two times so that we can deal with those hot, heavy days where demand sort of spikes and we don't want to run out of water in our reservoirs so we oversize the plant to deal with those max days as we call them. So we size a reservoir, we size the treatment systems around that kind of, that number so that's converting that 8600 cubic meters-a-day number turns into about 120 liters per second, more math, and what we're proposing here to do with the project is to phase in the 120 and 80 and then a future 40 to keep up with demand as the facility or the system requires it. So in terms of water quality, that's one of the first things we look at when we're looking at our treatment technologies, in terms of plant designs, to see what is in the raw water source. We had...there's a lot if you go along with but our parameters of focus that we sort of are looking at in your water supply are the ones listed in this table here. We have

ammonia, there's not really a health base limit to it but it does factor into our designs in the fact that it can't interfere with disinfection so we want to look at that number, the ammonia number is relatively fair, it's not a high number, it's not a low number but it's manageable in the system design, it doesn't freak me out. Chloride is a tad high, there's a MAC that we follow which is a maximum acceptable concentration. The Canadian, guidelines for Canadian drinking water quality sets standards of what we need to be treating down to, well under or at least under these numbers so what they consider 1.5 is a healthy base line so you're a tad over so we need to address and treat this deal with the fluoride. Iron, we have an AO which is an aesthetic objective, but it's not really a health based, it's more a nuisance kind of parameter in your water. If we didn't treat for it, you'd have yellowish water, when we hit it with chlorine, you'd have yellow laundry because of the staining effect of iron so you want to get it out so we have a bit more of a pristine water source. Same thing with manganese, manganese is fairly low but they also have some limits on those constituents so it's, it's a side effect. A little bit of manganese in the water also adds a bit of discoloration, a bit of staining of laundry so we want to remove that as well to as low as possible so we have some targets for that. Ph is another one but the other two parameters that we're looking at in your source is sodium, sodium dissolves solids so sodium again, aesthetic objective is about 200. Above that or getting too high, you start to sort of tasting the salt in the water but it's also a concern for people on low sodium diets so some communities will choose to get, to have lower sodium levels just for the sake of their ... the kind of population that they have or hospitals that are sensitive to that so we try to look at sodium as another parameter of treatment. Total solids ... total dissolved solids, sort of what's dissolved, that's the hardness, calcium, magnesium but mostly the total dissolved solids is what it will leave behind of spots on your dishes and stuff so when the water evaporates and leaves the solids behind so it's another bit of aesthetics, it's another thing that we try to remove to make the water feel a bit more clean and fresh and easier to ...some have it so we're looking at that. You are...it's just a little bit over 500 objective. Again when it gets a little too high, you start tasting that a bit. Some people like a little bit of minerals in their water, it's great but too much gets a little bit too crunchy. **NOTE: My well is on the Sandilands Aquifer and I have had it for over 40 years. Crunchy is a Crispy Crunch chocolate bar. My water is entirely liquid, NO CRUNCH!!!! I do have yellow staining on my nice antique porcelain bathtub but hey, that warm bath feels the same with or without staining. My clothes are not yellow, however. I don't wear too much white and that takes care of that.** So our proposed treatment to deal with those parameters is pretty much a green sand filtration and Reverse Osmosis. The water quality is pretty good here so we don't really need to have a heavy um technology in the Reverse Osmosis uh but we're mostly going to be running our flow, like you see here, at about 80% of the flow will go through green sands which is going to address our iron and manganese, and the other 20% is going to go through Reverse Osmosis to take out pretty much our solids and our fluoride that we want to reduce, those ones that we're sort of a little bit more worried about, we're going to put through the Reverse Osmosis but as I said, the numbers aren't that high, we don't need to fully treat all of that water source with that high level of treatment, we just need to treat enough to bring it down to a nice little positive number. **NOTE: How does one take water from a well and divide it, 80% and 20%? Am I just a little slow on the uptake or what? How can you treat 80% of a water flow one way and 20% another? Of course, I am not an engineer. I presume they will do the green sand treatment first but then the entire flow will still have to be subject to the Reverse Osmosis, would it not?** So green sands RO ... pretty common technology in the Province... you can throw a stone, you can probably run into a plant that has green sands alteration and Reverse Osmosis in this Province given the water quality that we see often in our well sources throughout the, Manitoba here. I think Anola has green sand filtration here so it's something familiar to the operators and another reason why we like to look at this technology and uh so you can sort of see how we're ...the process flow diagram here is 80% all through green sand, run a little bit through the Ros, blend them back together, we should have a nice pristine sort of water so of course that's cost effective as well. Too much RO, too much money, so we're trying to manage that cost by bringing that size down to what we need to treat just the small amount for quality. These, these two treatment technologies will have some process streams, some uh reject streams, so we have a green sand backwash so the filter gets a little dirty, we can clean it so we run some water through it, get rid of the iron and manganese that we collected, we don't dispose of that uh through the we ... through the uh backwash depository disposal system. The concentrate again is that Reverse Osmosis process we're concentrating, taking the water out, the H2O leaving the minerals out the side stream, so the minerals we don't want we sort of add that, it's what we call depository stream. So we're going to take that filter, clean filter, backwash out the concentrate, run it through a small retention pond on site that deals with um saline but also the concern of seasonal storage so for the winter we're not really discharging this into a ditch that freezes up so we hold it in the pond over winter, come Spring we'll discharge it into the Cooks Creek Diversion, that's sort of naturally sort filters it as it makes its way until it gets to the final receiving ...I think it's the Red River. So that process of discharging into the environment, very common in most plants in Manitoba and it pretty much needs an Environmental process to get that approval too, it's not like we're just taking garbage and throwing it out, we need to have control of that quality, we need to meet regulatory guidelines for that So that's part of...another step of this design process is the Environmental approvals for that process. So Reservoir Storage Capacity, so once we build the water plant, we start looking at how much storage we need, we already said we have to have a certain amount of storage for the daily needs but we also are considering fire storage, fire protection so we're looking at Dugald that currently has about 11 million, um liters or a thousand cubic meters, Oakbank has about 1300 cubic meters in their current reservoir and based on growth numbers, Dugald is fine for capacity as we calculated it, Oakbank will be a bit short on capacity, at the gross so the new plant is going to take over a bit of that capacity, about 3,000 cubic meters of storage that helps with the both communities in terms of fire protection and water storage needs. **NOTE: Again, skirting the fact that the Heatherdale wells are going to be decommissioned and the new municipal wells on Poplar Road are going to be supplying all Municipal water to the Municipality.** And the facility where we'll show sort of where it's located there, centrally between Dugald and Oakbank, will have a distribution system so it will have to take water from the raw water sourced into the plant and will distribute it to Dugald and Oakbank. There's an existing line that exists already that we're going to back feed to Dugald from the plant site but the line is a little bit too small to develop to deliver the Oakbank so we're going to revise that system to Oakbank. And the uh...we'll also as a part of the process is connect this plant to the distribution systems as a backup sort of source that something, maintenance if something happens that we have to clean those reservoirs, we can still...this plant can still feed the distributions directly and the facility will also load truck fills for like if truck fill fails. **NOTE: And no mention about the fact that every ratepayer in the Municipality is paying for this system and seeing no benefitunless your property experiences a fire. And even then, it is highly unlikely to be of benefit. We have a volunteer fire department so response time is less than desirable. Oh, wait a minute, we haven't factored in that we will need to change to a paid fire department with 24/7 members on duty and more trucks etc. Strange in this long dissertation that none of that is being mentioned.** Part of our process of this design, we were looking at multiple locations for the site, do we build it in Dugald, do we build it in Oakbank, do we build somewhere central, pretty much it was pretty apparent when you start seeing the site that we're pretty landlocked in Dugald and Oakbank so even though you see this table here for the decision matrix, there really wasn't much choice around the existing site given the property, the development around it, the size of the facility build was just not really easy to

place locally. Otherwise Oakbank was ... sort of had some space but the consideration of old gas stations was a concern so for safety and sort of proximity, we elected on the uh the central site between the two. Project Schedule is ... no. **Phil Pawluk** - Good evening, everybody, I'm Phil Pawluk, Manager of Water and Waste for the RM and I'm going to take over for the next steps through the presentation here. So again this would be the project schedule that we're looking at. Again we started back in 2021 when I came on board and we did an audit of the existing infrastructure and based on the development and growth that's coming uh strategically through the RM based uh the approved Development Plan that exists, uh we found that the infrastructure is lacking in terms of capacity so as you can see on the presentation here and the time line which we've followed through from the previous open houses, we're sort of at the um First Reading tonight which was supposed to happen in 20th of September uh it's moved to now February 2024 but as you can see highlighted in the red, there are still several uh decision points that involve go/no go decisions that involve Council and the public as a whole so tonight is the First Reading and we're looking for a fund utility to move the project forward in a strategic and logical manner. So based on the First Reading tonight, uh we would continue on then with detailed design with Associated Engineering and working with the Water Services Board and moving it forward then to detailed design where they hope to tender this summer and based on those finances and those numbers that come back, there would be more dialogue and discussion with Council and the public to again go through the decision point of go/no go based on what the final numbers come back so. So if everything moves along on the trajectory that we anticipate, we could see construction this winter uh probably with a 2 year construction window to have everything in place uh with commissioning at the end of 2026 or into early 2027 which would tie into some of the developments that are planned to come on line. So moving on to project costing, uh this is a Class B estimate that was put together uh with Associated Engineering, uh it includes again a 20% contingency to account for market fluctuations and a few components that have not yet been designed in the system um so as you can see here, uh they're somewhat to do with the existing wells on uh Poplar Road, \$490,000. uh the well field expansion \$900,000., uh pipelines to bring all the water from the existing well field to Dugald and then up to the new Water Plant on Cedar Lake and then up into Oakbank so that's around \$8.1 million, the new Water Plant itself is \$17.1 million, uh upgrades to the existing Dugald pump station which will be converted to a water treatment plant with pump station and mechanical, electrical and structural is now 30 years old and it will require upgrades regardless of the new Water Treatment Plant similar to the Oakbank Pump Station will be converted to a Water Treatment Plant pump station, it also requires the same mechanical, electrical, structural upgrades and that is estimated at \$1.435 million, that brings us to our aggregate cost of \$29.4 million dollars. So moving on to the proposed borrowing breakdown, uh based on that \$29.4 million cost, the capital cost estimate which includes all the pieces mentioned there, uh we've received grants to date, Manitoba Water Services Board or I should say the grants received to date are \$10.6 million towards that \$29.4 million, Water Services Board has put forward \$4.95 million, shared at a 50/50 cost ratio, the Province of Manitoba Municipal Relations Department has provided a grant of \$5.65 million as a one-time um allocation there, uh based on the Reserves right now that are in the RM, we have a Capital Water Levy Reserve existing \$3.73 million, uh the Canada Community Building Reserve has \$1 million in it and then part of the Regional Utility Reserve has \$1.5 million. So based on the reserves that are in place to date, \$6.3237 million will come towards that project. So what does that leave the RM looking at as a worse-case scenario at this First Reading is \$12.563 million. **NOTE: I never was good at math but I cannot calculate how the monies he has mentioned add up to his figures.** So based on that the interest rate which our Finance Manager has been reviewing with different borrowing agencies in the Province, they're looking at a 6.5% borrowing rate at today's rate based on the existing market conditions over a 20 year term. And the annual debenture based on this worse-case scenario is \$1.14 million dollars. Now we're also working on other pieces between now and when the plant is complete, again with the Capital Water Levy Reserve. I believe based on our numbers that we have shown right now, there's about another \$3.6 million that's due from developers to continue on, on the existing system but has the capacity that was talked about at one of the previous uh working-group meetings or uh Committee of the Whole meetings so there would be \$3.6 million coming in toward this \$12.3 and the Canada Community Building Reserve and then the existing water customers and then that's subject to uh Public Utilities Board. So how does that look? So if we were to look at this project being built today, and having a commission tomorrow morning at the \$12.656 million at six and a half percent, we see here that on residential properties, based on less than five or more than five dwellings and occupied condos portioned at 45% tax rate, uh the mill rate would be 0.686 so it would be 30.87...thirty dollars and 87 cents per hundred thousand dollars of assessment. **NOTE: So my taxes would increase by approximately \$77 annually times 20 years providing my assessment did not increase.** Farm land which is portioned at 26 percent which is the lowest assessment in the RM would be \$17.83 cents per hundred thousand of assessment and commercial industrial and institutional uh properties would bear the biggest burden of this project which would be at 65% and they would pay \$44.59 per \$100,000, again based if you were to do this today on the full amount at the current rate. **NOTE: And this does not include the plans for the Rec Centre and the Springfield Heritage Housing Inc. projects or any future initiatives which would also increase taxes.** Now the way it's being proposed, the time line and the way the funding works, Manitoba Water Services Board will carry the annual costs for 12 months during construction and then at the end of the year, they will send us an invoice for our share of the amount every year. So we're not planning to take twelve and a half million dollars (\$12,500,000.) today. By the time we get to that point, two and a half or 3 years from now, it will be reduced at which point those numbers will be reviewed and hopefully there's a more...we are hoping that there's a preferred interest rate two and a half or 3 years from now which would then bring that number down even more. **NOTE: Lucky us!** So we know for sure that there's \$3.86 million coming from developers somewhere in the next 3 years at a minimum. And that sort of is our presentation towards for the public this evening and for Council. **NOTE: Again a man can be heard asking a question and Phil answering but I cannot hear what was said. The Chamber should be wired for sound so these occurrences could be recorded.** **Nathan Wittmeier, Chief Engineer, Manitoba Water Services Board** – Did you go through the whole thing, well (laughing) Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I'm Nathan Wittmeier, I'm the Chief Engineer with the Manitoba Water Services Board and we're partnered with the RM of Springfield on this project. Our...for those who aren't familiar with us, our role as Water Services Board is to assist communities in developing water and wastewater infrastructure. Ok. Oh, thank you. Um to develop water and wastewater infrastructure, so joining with communities on uh important projects to help them continue forward in developing uh both water treatment, wastewater treatment, collection and distribution infrastructure. So our role at the Board is to uh come alongside the RM and what we specialize in is uh the tendering and uh design assistance. Uh we have a technical branch that helps to review with the engineers all of the plans and we incorporate all of the experience that we gained from our different projects throughout the Province into those water plants so that we can uh leverage that to help be of benefit to the community. We also are the ones that uh, that do put out all of the tenders and those are available on our, on our Mb. Water Services Board Web Site and their contractors are able to take the bids and to submit the bids so we also do hold all of the contracts. And in holding all of the contracts uh uh it's a partnership with the Water Services Board which is a Crown Corporation and we pay all the bills on behalf of the RM, on behalf of the um contracts. And then as we go throughout the project, as Phil mentioned, we uh we send invoices to the RM uh for their portion and at the end

of the project, the debenture is issued for the, the amount of the project. And so we, we uh specialize in doing this, this is what we do. We're helping communities all around the area to develop water and wastewater infrastructure um including your neighbours and all around uh uh the City of Winnipeg. In fact, I think there may be only one municipality around the City of Winnipeg that we aren't currently involved with by delivering water or wastewater infrastructure in some sort of capacity. We've just finished the down, down the road in uh Tache and Lorette um a new reservoir for them and we'll be shortly entering into a new water plant for them. We've uh, we are working at the uh RM of Brokenhead/Tyndall/Garson water plant, the Beausejour water plant, we just finished St. Clements a few years ago. We're working with East St. Paul on a regional study for water and wastewater and we're about to construct a reservoir in uh West St. Paul uh dealing with both St. Andrews, Stonewall uh is going through a quite similar process to what you folks are looking at, uh a regional system with uh water lines, reservoirs. Um theirs is just a little bit more money than what you have projected here. And uh then we're working all the way around the other side, we're doing a reservoir over in MacDonald on McGillvray and a water plant for them, a reservoir for the RM of Headingly and uh lest we forget, Ritchot and Niverville on the other side way down south and we're working with them as well so we hope to be of assistance to the RM to be able to provide some of that technical expertise and then as well help to uh to come alongside and that helps to leverage the Provincial loan rate that the, the Water Services Board is able to access through the temporary bridge financing during construction and uh we also um go through a number of technical reviews in the sixty-six, 95%. So we look forward to uh a project together and hope that uh we're able to be of assistance and of course, we're always looking out for communities trying to leverage the maximum amount of grants that we can uh we can obtain from the Provincial Government. Thank you very much. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you very much, Sir. **NOTE: Quite the sell job!!!** Uh going forward that's uh our uh the presentations there um I'll leave it to Council, has Council got any questions about the presenters uh there before we move on to the public portion of the hearing? Mark? **Councillor Miller** – Thank you, Mr. Mayor and thank you for the presenters. That was useful information, I hope it's useful for the public. Like I have a few different questions, I think one might start with uh Mr. Bell from Friesen Drillers and if you can't answer it, maybe one of your colleagues could. How much water would be flowing or discharged from that reservoir when you are doing the RO? You say that there's uh a lagoon, I think uh someone mentioned there's going to be a lagoon that you wouldn't flow it through Cooks Creek during the winter because of potential freeze-up but frankly, how much water would be discharged uh on a typical basis? **Jeff Bell** – That's not my discipline, that's Ken's. (ok) **Ken Anderson ??** – I should come up here and answer. Soya you were mentioning that there's uh a reject pond at the end of the plant and usually that's going to be about 10 to 15% of whatever we produce that day goes out as waste, as a filter backwash and the membranes will have about 25% waste but they're a smaller part of the treatment so it's a small flow. **Councillor Miller** – Do you have an estimated amount of liters or **Ken Anderson** – Do you have that? 4 liters a second. **Councillor Miller** – 4 liters a second. I'll have to do some math, I guess. **Ken Anderson** – It'd be like dumping a 4 liter jug of milk just. **Councillor Miller** – A second. **Unidentified Female** – I was just going to ask, of that 80 liters a second that will, that the treatment gets in, 4 liters a second will be of that. **Ken Anderson** – It's also like a volume, it could be 4 liters a second for 2 hours a day if that is how it's running in the future at that rate for 20 hours a day, just continues on at that flow rate. **Councillor Kuczynski** – So if you said in your presentation that we're going to be 10 liters a second going through the green sand and um.... **Ken Anderson** – Uh through the green sand... **Councillor Kuczynski** – REU... **Ken Anderson** –it's ... 80% of the day's liters ... sixty-five... get's filtered. So about 64 liters a second going through the green sand. And about 5% of that that we consider as waste on a day. And then the ROs had that the remaining 20 liters a second I believe going through that ... that as our... that ... as the concentrated waste stream of that 25% of the ...20 liters a second, 5 liters a second there but that...that production. **Councillor Miller** – Ya. Just a follow up, I think we'll get to the Mr. Mayor uh but I don't know if you want to go back and forth or how you want to.... **Mayor Therrien** – Well, no, we'll just uh do a Council and then we'll go into the Inquiries portion and support and all that. **Councillor Miller** – Ok. Just a follow up, um under the Canadian guidelines for water quality, uh is radon measured. I know radon... **Ken Anderson** – No. No, radon is more of a gas that you would see in foundations. So you'd be more concerned with that, not in the water supply. **Councillor Miller** – Ya, actually it is in water, uh I used to be ... so it might be a one time shot, I'm not saying it has to be measured all the time but I think it's an important uh variable in it. Just my comment. Um in this project, this might be a question for Mr. Wittmeier, in today's uh market, is the 20% contingency fund enough or appropriate for this project? As you know, building costs and everything has uncertainties. And so doing the math of this twenty-nine dollar or twenty-nine million dollar project, there's approximately I think \$5 million dollars that's in contingency, would that be what you would call appropriate, are we going to see all of a sudden this balloons to \$36 million dollars or whatever. **Ken Anderson** – Sure and so we are uh advancing forward with estimates for the project and uh those estimates remain estimates until you go to tender at which time then you'll know the final value on it. And so we have seen some variable pricing in the market uh as of recently and we are seeing for earthworks which would be the pond and then also pipe which in between, there is a significant portion of it, that we're seeing actually below estimate prices in those right now uh but on the building side, we have seen prices that are higher than, than estimate yet um there was a significant increase in prices in both uh in 2021 in through 2023 um 40% approximately and so there's been a little bit of a settling in the market but there's uh definitely an opportunity that it could come in higher than anticipated. We would generally use at a final design stage a 10% contingency and so at this stage uh 20% would be in line with what we are anticipating. **Councillor Miller** – Thank you for that. A follow up to that, you noted that there's a number of regional systems in play like uh West St. Paul, St. Andrews, Stonewall, etc. Um is that not an opportunity for the RM of Springfield to partner, uh collaborate with another municipality on a regional approach to make this more palatable or financially viable for all of us? **Ken Anderson** – Sure so uh there are a lot of regional water coops that have been the focus of the Provincial funding for many years. The majority of those you'll see on the west side of Winnipeg or south of Winnipeg and so they've, they've followed really the areas where there is this water deprivation so there's not readily groundwater and so it makes sense to begin to transport water a long distance from a central plant for those water coops. Um that said, um you're into a somewhat regional approach through the same Dugald and Oakbank. Um to extend that beyond would, uh would be beneficial of course and uh definitely opportunities for uh for further development, however because the groundwater is readily available, um the financial prowess of that is a little bit limited because you can build another plant not too far down the road, there's good groundwater and they can build a plant and uh operate for not too much ... about the same cost. **Councillor Miller** – Thank you for that answer, there's two other questions I think they're quick. Uh why is there no Federal dollars in this initiative? I know in other projects there often is or there can be. Is this unique where we're not receiving, the RM of Springfield is not receiving any Federal contribution to this initiative? **Ken Anderson** – Sure so there are a number of different uh uh funding programs that are available at different times. We've seen in recent memory the Canada Water & Wastewater Fund (CWWF) which was launched in 2016 and then there was the, the Federal funding which was the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program uh which launched in 2019 and then was beginning to roll off projects in 2021. And so this was kind of at the tail end or just past that intake for the um for the and I can't recall if there was an application that was submitted to the ISIS program or not but um so there is cost shares

available through Federal programs but it is unknown right now when the next one will come. It could be 2025, it could be 2027, nobody really knows until the program is announced. And so we have seen in the past few years a um an increase in Provincial funding that uh moved through the municipal relations uh infrastructure basket for ...or several infrastructure baskets. And so uh those dollars were advanced at a 50% cost share and um and uh up to the maximum amount of the Provincial dollars that were granted so that's where the dollars uh that have been advanced through Municipal Relations and then the dollars with the Water Services Board are um and so uh there is Federal programs coming but um it's hard to know when those will come and what inflation will do between now and then so even if you were to go from your 50% to the higher funding um it may just be eaten up in uh inflationary costs. **Councillor Miller** – Uh the final ... oh sorry. **Phil Pawluk** - I'm sorry, Councillor Miller, yes uh there were no ... there was no Federal application made on this project as there were no open funding or no uh grants open at the Federal level at this time and the Dugald Water Plant Expansion that just finished up a year and a half ago, it did participate in the ISIP funding program. I believe we received about \$2 million dollars toward that so around 50%. So the project did get Federal grant toward the project. **Councillor Miller** – Alright, thank you for that answer. And one final question. Um the Province is giving us something like \$10 million dollars as a grant. I think it expires something like March or, or I don't know the exact expiry date to that. Uh you could probably fill us in on that. (sure) But if we don't take that, let's just say we don't, can one reapply, can the RM reapply? I'm just giving scenarios like, can...is that money going to be available at a future point as well. **Ken Anderson** – So there's uh two different pots that have been received from ...the one that's from the Water Services Board has not yet been advanced and it does not have a finite time period on it. We're able to... uh if this project were to go forward the year beyond, we're able to access those dollars. Um the Rural Infrastructure basket dollars that have been advanced to the RM from uh Municipal Relations, those also do not have a time period on them, however they were advanced with um...in regards to this specific project and so if, if the project was not to go forward, then the RM would have to return those funds and the interest to the Province. **Councillor Miller** – Just building on that, you're saying there is no time line on that one so in other words, we could ...I'm not saying we're trying to gain interest on it but if for some uncertain reason we had to explore other options, that money would still be there in the pot, the \$10 million. **Ken Anderson** – Well, it uh it uh would have to go forward, the project and the intent was for it to go forward um so if you were to turn aside the Provincial funding, that's probably not, what we've seen, it's probably not uh the hottest card in town to turn aside Provincial funding when it is available um um just uh you know, it's um it's also the Provincial funding that is incorporated into uh the Federal funding and so um when there's opportunity we encourage communities to approach them. **Councillor Kuczynski** – I want to ask a few questions. Um this was the time the ??? was working on the Water Treatment Plant and they received the grants from the Federal Government, they have 30 - 30 split three ways so how did they obtain the grants that, and it's not available to us? **Ken Anderson** –So the way the Federal programs work is that there is a specific intake period and they open up the intake and say uh for any projects, please identify and then there is a great number of projects that are identified and uh there's a process by which the Government goes through and selects, the uh projects to advance forward and so if you hit that time window, you can be in consideration but if you miss the time window, then uh the opportunity goes by and you have to wait until the next one. **Councillor Kuczynski** – So if we're going to build this uh Water Treatment Plant, can we send some information to Federal Government asking them when the process of building but when are you going to have grants, you can kind of assign us some money or apply some money to this project? **Ken Anderson** –So the way that the uh funding programs work is that once you have awarded a contract, they are not eligible for uh cost share so once you've gone forward with a project, you can't go back to the Program and uh apply those contracts to uh the funding. **Councillor Kuczynski** –But you stated that maybe some funds are going to be available in 2025. We're not going to finish that project. We still are going to be in the process of completion so can we apply then or we just ... **Ken Anderson** – So you can continue to apply to the Water Services Board um as the project is not yet uh fully 50% uh committed in Water Services Board dollars, you can continue to make application to those and uh and uh we um, I don't think it's an issue for us to extend those dollars if uh if they were uh granted by the Province. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok, thank you. Hi, Mr. Bell. Um what is the difference in quality of water from Heatherdale wells we have now and the new wells we're going to do you know southeast of Dugald? **Jeff Bell** –Uh the big difference is the nature of the aquifer that they're coming from. Uh the sandstone wells at the new Dugald site are confined so there's a confining layer of clay over top of it and till things that protect the aquifer. At the Heatherdale site it is unconfined so it's a different set of regulations for that which Ken can expand on a little bit more. **NOTE: The Heatherdale area aquifer, in my opinion, was confined until the aggregate operators commenced blasting and hauling aggregate out of there and we are now to the point where one is removing aggregate across the road from our wells on Heatherdale. Birds Hill afforded natural protection, I would think.** But if we have groundwater that's in an unconfined aquifer, that means that things that happen at surface can get into that aquifer quite easily and we have to enhance the treatment quite a bit. **NOTE: If memory serves me right, the Heatherdale water did not start needing treatment until just about the time I became interested in Municipal politics, around 2008. That was one of the reasons the Aggregate Task Force was created, to deal with the issues of encroachment of the aquifer by the Aggregate industry.** And that's not my rule, it's the Provincial government requirements on that so a confined aquifer from a Municipal standpoint is always much better because it does provide some level of natural protection. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Secondly, if we're treating this water quite extensively, can we drill water right by where the water...right by the Water Treatment Plant? **NOTE: The water right by Dugald is very saline (salty). It improves as you go east.** **Jeff Bell** – No because **Councillor Kuczynski** – interrupting The aquifer doesn't extend to this area? **Jeff Bell** – It does. The sandstone aquifer extends through quite a bit of Manitoba. Manitoba is basically like a big giant bowl of sediment, the whole western part of the country is really. We're just in the one part of the fringes of it here. So the sandstone extends underneath, well it goes underneath the Sandilands, it extends all the way through underneath Winnipeg and all the way out west past Brandon into Alberta even. The sandstone though is only fresh in the areas where it receives the recharge which is fresh so in our area of Manitoba, we get fresh recharge from the Sandilands complex which recharge the sandstone so we have a wedge of fresh water in that area and that wedge kind of starts to become salty naturally as we go closer to the City of Winnipeg. So a little bit closer to Winnipeg, things get salty real fast. The water quality goes from being 80 years old to 10,000 years old and it's naturally salty. It's, it's not something anybody's done, it's just naturally salty. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok, thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Any other questions from Council? Uh Mr. Bell, I've got just a quick uh question uh there. Those uh wells, the monitoring wells, are they uh wireless and the Province is monitoring them as well? **Jeff Bell** – Well, I mean, we use wireless technology now within our company but the Province is...some of them are, are that way but some of them, when you say wireless, the reason I smiled was because actually they still use a float and a paper drum with a little battery power clock and a pen that writes on the drum. That's a Stevens recorder there. Everybody laughs but actually they're, they're a really bulletproof measure way of monitoring. So every, I think it's either 30, 60, or 90 days the Province sends a technician out to those stations. They take the paper off and then they put a new drum paper on it and then they take that paper back to the office and they actually use a digitizing tablet to digitize the water levels off of it and then they use a hydrograph that they give to us. Sometimes they use pressure

transducers which allow us...which allow them to plug directly into a computer and download the data off the unit. The Province doesn't have as many of those. We run exclusively by pressure transducers that are either manually measured through the computer or, or in some cases, rare, you can do it wirelessly through cellular technology kits. **Mayor Therrien**—Ok, thank you very much. **Councillor Kuczynski**—Um yes, is East St. Paul taking water from um by the Floodway uh for their own use? **Jeff Bell**—Yes and no. They have two wells in East St. Paul. So originally... **Councillor Kuczynski**—But they have one well here in the Municipality of Springfield. **Jeff Bell**—Uh yes I guess technically they do, it's just inside your boundary uh so that well field...it kind of has a bit of a history to it but the original...when the pits were dug there, before the Floodway, I think that was BACM uh Construction Materials dug those pits and mined the gravel out, this is in the 1960s. When the Floodway was, was blazed through that area, they filled the...they used the soil from the Floodway to backfill areas around Birds Hill where the sand and gravel was ...and after they did that, they noticed that there was a few hundred gallons a minute of seepage seeping into the banks of the Floodway and in the early 1990s the RM of East St. Paul decided to capture that as a water supply and that is drawing from the unconfined sand and at the time, that was totally allowed but all of our regulations in terms of hydrogeology in Canada changed after Walkerton. Prior to Walkerton, we didn't do things like groundwater under the influence of surface water and that sort of thing. The Walkerton situation in Ontario changed all of our regulations in Canada where we have definitions now between groundwater that's under the influence of surface water and can be easily contaminated like it was in Walkerton or something that's more confined. So that regulation changed. East St. Paul has moved away from those wells and abandoned those wells uh 5, 6, 7 years ago now they abandoned the sand and gravel wells. So East St. Paul is currently drawing from a well in the limestone that's located in that area so the carbonate aquifer and then off the Wenzel Road Treatment Plant, they're drawing from another well in the carbonate aquifer and their license is split, they have several licenses in East St. Paul. Sorry, I don't want to go on about East St. Paul but ... **Councillor Kuczynski**—Thank you. **Mayor Therrien**—Um I have a question for Ken. Um Ken you stated that the low sodium um uh diets I put down here um the sodium there, is that uh a concern for our senior citizens. Is that something that uh.... **Ken Anderson**—You see that a bit in most communities that would have uh large health care issues that they, they look at the salt a little bit more closely than other people. But as long as they have their own softening ... or their dialysis machines will take it out if there's too much sodium in the, the potable water supply. So it's usually of benefit to get that as low as possible if you can too. If it's a side effect of uh hardness removal, solids removal, we're also taking out sodium cause it's also a mineral like everything else. **Mayor Therrien**—Ok. Um while you're up there, uh Ken, the seasonal storage there at the new plant, it's 3,000 cubic meters uh you had said. **Ken Anderson**—No, that one, 3,000 cubic meters is the reservoir storage of treated water. **Mayor Therrien**—Of treated water, ok. **Ken Anderson**—What's on the other side of the pond, no not there, the other side, that side, ya. We would look at how much water we're sort of going to reject out of the plant over a winter period, sort of like how like a lagoon does, like lagoons will store over the winter cause they're not throwing it out when it's icy and things like that so they hold it over the winter. It gets minor treatment and then it starts come Spring, we're following almost a similar principle. We'll hold it during the winter, do it when it's not freezing, when it's freezing and then discharge early in the year just so that we're not causing any icing issues in the... and it's also I think that pond might be used for some local stormwater retention so we're going to try that multi-purpose ... ya so it's going to have just more than one purpose but it's going to help us with uh with our process. **Mayor Therrien**—Ok. I, I had a tour of the ...of our plant uh there so I have a basic uh you know the 2 hour tour kind of version there but is that ... those storage uh lagoons or storage areas, are they covered uh like for safety uh Friesens uh. **NOTE: The water feature around the RM building, which is at least 8 to 10 ft. deep, is not covered and it isn't fenced either, even though it is adjacent to a skate pad and children's playground, speaking of lack of safety. The Mayor is suddenly concerned about the elderly with sodium and lagoons.** **Ken Anderson**—Not. They'd be almost no different than like a retention pond that you see in communities where you have those, those ponds so we would put fences around them just for safety but (ya) you don't encourage people to go and camp out and turn them into a beach. So, you want to have ya, danger, thin ice kind of signs and stuff **NOTE: Non-existent at the RM Administration Building.** So we'd have the protection. **Mayor Therrien**—Ok. Uh thank you very much there Ken. Uh any other questions uh from Council before I open it up to the public? Ok at this point uh here uh um we'll be opening up to the public uh there and 3 different phases, uh those uh for informational or clarification purposes, then we'll get into the uh speak in support and then uh speak in opposition. Uh again if uh you know somebody is up there and they'd already asked your question and they've answered it, I would ask that you just respect that and that should be your answer uh there so uh we're not having 2 or 3 of the same questions uh there. Um so uh the first uh we're going to go for the informational purposes uh there and we're going to restrict it to 10 minutes according to our bylaw there uh who wants to go first for the information purposes, they can ask our experts here as well. Anybody for informational purposes on line uh I'll go on line first. Unless I'm wrong, I don't see anybody uh there. Uh in the audience? For information? Uh Janet. **Janet Nysten**—Thank you very much. Um I appreciate the presentations today. Thank you for those. Uh most of my questions will be directed to Council and staff. Um about the current by-law uh that we're considering tonight, um I guess I'm a bit surprised we haven't given it First Reading and it doesn't have some kind of status. I don't know if it's going to be changed before First Reading but speaking to it as uh it's showing on your website, um the Municipal Reserve of \$1 million dollars from Community Capacity Building Fund Reserve, uh that Reserve Fund was not in the 2022 Budget and it shows up later in 2023. I just wondered when that Reserve was created. **CAO Draper**—So that was originally referred to as the Gas Tax Reserve and the Province has renamed that to the CCBF. **Janet Nysten**—Ok, but we haven't changed our Gas Tax Reserve Bylaw to reflect that or... **CAO Draper**—We have not changed the name of the bylaw to reflect that yet, no. **Janet Nysten**—Ok so that's why I couldn't find anything (ya). Ok. Um then uh was the Reserve, the Capital Water Levy, can you explain the funding shown on the November 30th, 2023 Financial Statement. I heard tonight perhaps it includes the grant from the Municipal Relations. Is that included in that Reserve? **CAO Draper**—So, sorry the \$6 million 237 Reserve contribution, you're asking if the one-time grant was included in there? **Janet Nysten**—Well, I guess I just wanted clarification that what we see in your grants and what we see on the reserves, we don't want to use the same fund twice, the same money twice and I think the money from the Municipal Relations grant has been put into that Reserve. **CAO Draper**—That's showing in the Reserve, yes. **Janet Nysten**—Ok. Now there seems to be another \$500,000. um from that Reserve going into this bylaw that wasn't in the November statement. Where does that \$500,000. come from? **Amram Bangura, Finance Manager**—Um included in that Reserve ... **Mayor Therrien**—Sorry, Amram, could you please state your name, people on line, so they know. **Amram Bangura**—My name is Amram Bangura, I'm the Finance Manager here. Included in that Reserve um is also a one-time grant that we received from the Province that was also included there so that would have been that November statement that you would have seen. **Janet Nysten**—Another half a million dollar grant? **Amram Bangura**—It's more than a million dollars. **Janet Nysten**—That hasn't been disclosed before. Ok. Thank you. That's, that's new money. Um the Municipal Act provides for borrowing for water supply systems as a local improvement. Why did the RM not proceed as a Local Improvement? Why is it going as a General borrowing? **CAO Draper**—Well, I guess staff looked at the Local Improvement option and um I think I'm talking as loud as I can but I will ... so staff did look at the Local Improvement option and just with the way the land is

not being developed right now, um going off the development plan process and the lands that are ... that can be developed, uh it was not suitable to do an LI at this time on one large piece of land. **Janet Nylen** – Ok, because by going with a General Borrowing, 2/3 of the residents are not on the system and they're going to have to pay for something that they won't benefit from ever, probably many of them, and also the Mayor has reported in the paper that this has been on the books for 12 years. Um I can't find any documentation to support that. I just see where it started to show up in the Budget in 2021. When was it...like when did it start to happen, this project? **Mayor Therrien** – Uh I think it's been in design for the last 3 years according to what Phil was saying and what I understood. Uh I'd heard uh there, I spoke with uh uh an ex-CAO that was here and it specified that it was...they were talking about that 10 or 12 years ago, talking about it. So talking and you know, the uh conception, planning, analysis and so on and then to the uh shovels in the ground, that takes quite some time and this has been ongoing for quite some time. **Janet Nylen** – I guess why I'm raising that too is that a few years back, we spent I heard tonight \$4 million dollars on the Dugald uh Water Treatment Plant and so that, like what did that buy us? Apparently nothing because we're spending now \$30 million dollars. It just seems to me that there was a timing error there. Um I want to speak faster because I'm running out of time. Capacity and size. I heard different statistics tonight that when I was looking at it, uh over the last 10 years there's been an average of 51 hookups in Dugald and Oakbank. I, I didn't include Anola so we're designing for 200 REUs for 20 years, 200 REUs a year for 20 years and we're only connecting 51 and last year we only connected 23 so I don't know, I'm worried about like the costing of operating of an oversized plant. Uh has there been any kind of calculations as to the impact of having an oversized plant and what it's going to cost to run. Um that's going to increase the uh consumer rates considerably. Has anybody considered that impact? And then um I guess that's a No or that's not a... **CAO Draper** – Well, I think that would be someone from ... Phil, are you able to address that or maybe Ken? **Phil Pawluk** – We kind of talked to the development so yes we only had 26 connections last year because we didn't have any lots available for development. **Janet Nylen** – You have lots of lots for development. **Phil Pawluk** – That's incorrect. So um we talk about uh the R&B Homes subdivision last year which was supposed to come on line but they were held up uh by some Hydro issues and that so they just came on line right now at the late end of the year, I believe, right on Lake Drive there so there's 43 lots that just came on line. Those were supposed to come on line last year. I believe there's 6 housing starts in there already. Um the uh Dogwood Drive subdivision there, that came on late as well so there's only about 8 .. 8 lots left in there and I believe there's only about 15 lots left in Wheatlands, Phase 4. So there's only 26 lots...or 26 starts last year because there was no lots available at the time. So with the Lake Drive lots... the Lake Drive subdivision would have been coming on line last Fall which you may have seen some starts, however that just got pushed off and those starts are now starting in January. So it just became a timing issue when some of the lots came on line. So I believe right now we've got about 20 lots or 20 permits already in the queue for connections already at this time of this year already. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, Phil. **Phil Pawluk** – So that's... **Janet Nylen** – And the part of the question? Does the costing for operations of the oversized plant and what that will mean to consumer rates? ??? We're doing a bit of teamwork for enduring design in terms of ... **Mayor Therrien** – Actually Ken, can you just identify yourself for people on line. **Ken Anderson, Associated Design** – Ken Anderson, Associated Design with the engineering. Um we are staging the plant for that stage. When we looked at that stage number of total REUs and saying like it's 120 liters a second flat, even that sort of raised the flag, that's the concern about oversized so our strategy here is how can we phase that in. Plants are usually in step so that's why you might see that 80 plus the 40 in the future so it's like 2/3 right now and the next there as we approach the plans aggressively, that sort of gets pushed out beyond a hundred. Maybe growth is great when all developers come all to the community and then that 40 is needed in 10 years and then it's built so we are phasing in the design right now to deal with the oversize concerns. **Janet Nylen** – Thank you. That's the first time I've heard the word staging so that's a bit reassuring. Uh... **Mayor Therrien** – interrupting Just one more minute there uh Mrs. Nylen. **Janet Nylen** – Ok. I just want to refresh what was reference to the development plan and in our Development Plan, it does provide there's no premature development of infrastructure that would place an undue burden on existing taxpayers. Also there's a supply and demand built into it and my calculations ... uh and I'm not going to get into an argument with staff here, is that there's 200 lots that you have allocated uh REUs for in Dugald that have not been built on. Why they haven't been built on is not my issue but the capacity has been ... is there for them at this time and I had calculated that somewhere around 150 REUs in Oakbank that some of them, that might be a bit high because some are on condos. So and we have 500 numbered 5 acre lots approved for in West Pine Ridge. So we have the supply, the demand seems to be um premature to me and then my last question, I think part of it was answered about the reverse osmosis and I have been told that it's an excessive use of water, that there's quite a bit of water that has...I heard between 30 and 40% of the water is excess and that it is an expensive process to maintain. So I heard why you're going that way tonight more than I've heard before but I just wanted Council to consider the costing as they do the design. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, thank you very much. ??? Could you hold this up for a minute, Bob. **Mayor Therrien** – Uh um ... ???The RO like ... **Mayor Therrien** – Sure if you just uh quick uh... ???So the Reverse Osmosis, it is always been flagged as a pretty high end technology, it's fairly common through Manitoba but 25% is the norm. I mean if you sort of want to get even better and get up to 90% the cost of the system get exponentially higher for the power part so we sort of live right now with the 25% rejection rate and right now we're designing for 20, sorry, I'm not the designer here so we're look...so we're trying to squeeze out more depending on the water so your design is based on the 20% rejection rate on the ROs. **Mayor Therrien** – Sir, did you have a question you want to ask uh to clarify. Maybe, can you just uh is it Don...Don can you just come up here and introduce yourself to the audience uh there. **Don** - Good evening. Thank you for all your presentations. I have a question for the uh... **Mayor Therrien** – Sorry, Don, I'm, I know you, if you can just say who you are so people on line ... **Don Palidwor** – My name's Don Palidwor, I've lived here all my, all my life in, in Springfield municipality. We farmed just across the road so we uh we know the you know the town quite well. Um my background is plumbing and water treatment as well and I just have a question for the design of the Water Treatment Plant. I know you're targeting green sand filters and I'm just going to ask you, why, why is it that you serve the reverse osmosis unit without the water going through the green sand filters first just...just to minimize some, some of the uh you know the maintenance on the RO system. **Ken Anderson** – Can I answer that again, Associated. Um depending on the water quality, we've done that. If we have arsenic in the water or we have some concerns that the ROs are going to get out quickly, we would run the water just before the green sands first but we consider that a cost issue, like an energy issue, you would have to oversize a bit of the green sands, we'd have to complicate the plant more so it adds cost to do that and part of our strategy is trying to reduce costs. So there isn't a need right now. The water quality that you have is pretty pris...like I'm not, pristine I want to say, ... but compared to where else I work, it's nice water so we're not concerned that this water is going to be aggressive under reverse osmosis. So we don't have to do that but it is a scenario in some water qualities. **Don Palidwor** – Ok. Is there any thoughts given to this ... depth troubled water that's going to be going through ... **Ken Anderson** – Ya, when we designed the system, we tell the suppliers that we are having this lower temperature water, like groundwater always stays around the 7, 9, 10 degrees Celsius so they have to account for colder water temperatures so that things are a little bit bigger to deal with at that ... the water becomes colder, more viscous, it has properties that we have fight against a little bit so we size it for that. **Don Palidwor** –

Ok, and to my knowledge that the reverse osmosis has a less efficiency let's say when it's colder water. Like normally... **Ken Anderson – interrupting** It is true like but the level of efficiency is probably measured in sort of pennies or dollars, it's not going to be measured in thousands. Like we might have to have a few more extra percentage points but most of the time we're applying RO on to groundwater which is always that 9 to 10. We're not going to spend the energy to heat the water up to 20 C, twenty degrees Celsius just because it's easier on the RO so we're going to spend a thousand dollars here to save a hundred dollars here so that we look at those balances too but it's sort of the reason why we just go through the system as is with the groundwater, we have to design it for that temperature. When I'm dealing with surface water with ROs, I have water like 25 degrees Celsius and that's even a bigger concern for me at that point. But your water sort of stays steady year-round so we can do that with that percentage. **Don Palidwor** – It's just that there's more waste. **Ken Anderson** – Ya, you know it all depends on the scale of the RO. We're using municipal size RO systems, not the under counter which are a little bit more unfriendly to pressures and water temperature, quality, we'll have a bit more forgiving sized ROs. **Don Palidwor** – Is there no uh ...I'm going to have a little debate here ok. **(laughter)** Ya, is uh ...ok I lost my train of thought now. Ok um Um with the RO water um and the temperature uh do you feel there's not going to be a waste management problem in the water that you're going to build ... **Ken Anderson – interrupting** No, what we do what with your treatment system is done in almost a hundred other places in the Province is the Water Services Board are familiar with it, we're familiar with it, we're not expecting any real big surprises in terms of the technology. It's pretty run-of-the-mill and like I said, your water quality...we're pretty good... in most municipalities we're the reverse, we're running 80% of the water through the RO and 20% through green sands. So the more expensive treatment is the RO system we're using on the larger portion. Your system, we're purposely trying to make that as small as possible to reduce the cost. **Don Palidwor** – Is there any, any uh intent to incorporate charcoal filtration for taste and odor? **Ken Anderson** – You can but if you are having a problem with taste and odor, that could be implemented afterward, the BAC, like the Britta filters but it used to be used as a ... as organic on taste and odors but they add, they add a maintenance cost as well, just like Britta tells you to change your filter every 30 days. There's a certain life expectancy immediate to the media so every 5 years you're going to spend well \$10,000, \$20,000 to replace that media as it expires or as it gets contaminated with whatever you're taking out. So it sort of has a cost to it as well. If you had notable taste and odors, it would probably be our design, our design consideration. **Don Palidwor** – Does the regenerate media, that's going to be used for the green sand itself ... **Ken Anderson** –We're gonna...we chose chlorine... **Don Palidwor** –Chlorine? **Ken Anderson** – Chlorine will be used to oxidize the iron manganese and then it will also regenerate the green sand media. **Don Palidwor** – And what's going to neutralize the chlorine? **Ken Anderson** –The chlorine continues through this system and that's again why we're splitting it, to maintain or to the disinfection process at the end. So if there's enough chlorine at the front to be part of our treatment process, that there'll be enough chlorine after the filter to act as our disinfection for, for potable use. The chl..the water will take chlorine so that's (ya) another reason why we have to separate it so ...we've had problems, we burnt out our ?? the chlorine from the green sand killed it. **Don Palidwor** – So no need to soften the water before you feed all this **Ken Anderson** – No. Those...to soften the water before ... **Don Palidwor** – ... before it goes to the green sand so... **Ken Anderson** – No that's...well we are softening to a degree, the RO is a process, it is removing the minerals, that's considered a softening process. But you're mostly dealing ...we're using the ROs for fluoride, not back down and by the side effect, we're also removing the salt and the TDS which is in the form of hardness but you don't see the hardness, like the calcium manganese is like we would from a carbonate aquifer so like limestone has. **Don Palidwor** – That answers my question. **Mayor Therrien** – Thanks Don. **Don Palidwor** – Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** –Um anybody else uh for a question there? Uh we have somebody on line uh so uh um I don't see them uh Christy. Anybody on line that wants to ask a question, I just don't see their icon or anything. Georgina. You're up. You're up. I can't hear you, Georgina. Not...nothing at all...I'm not a techie guy so maybe it's uh mute or something at your end. Uh maybe Georgina will uh go to uh we've got somebody else on line uh we'll come back to you in a second, uh there. Thank you. Uh who else is uh we'll take two on line because we had a few from the audience so make it even. Uh who else is on line? Kevin. Kevin, can you hear me. **Kevin** – Hello. Can you hear me? **Mayor Therrien** – Yes, Kevin, it's uh Pat uh here uh go ahead with your uh question. **Kevin** – Um ya my first question was about the wastewater but I think that's uh I got some clarification on that from the conversations. Uh another question. I was just wondering, do you guys have a sense of what the design and engineering costs would be to get up to the tender phase documents and would you be approaching it in a, in a phased project. Um you know I heard that talk about potential expansion so just wondering if it would be designed that way, is that the intent or is that just an idea for consideration right now? **Mayor Therrien** – Uh good questions, Kevin, uh who can answer that uh one of our experts uh there, is it an Amram or a Phil or a Ken uh question. Do you want to come up there and ask uh Kevin there, to clarify it. **Kevin** – So what is the design, what does the cost of design and engineering cost to reduce the construction tender documents and where would the funding for the specifically for the pre-construction phase come from. **Phil Pawluk** – I believe right now we're in and around first..it ... with Associated there was the uh so the extra work that was allocated to I believe around the \$200,000. range for design and engineering at this stage and that would include everything right up to the tender stage with the Water Services Board and that's coming out of the existing budgets that were approved, I believe in 2021 and 2022 Capital Budget Plan. **Kevin** – So that's the cost you're expecting for the design and engineering of the entire uh all of the upgrades for the entire project? **Phil Pawluk** –Uh well that would be to the first stage which would be the 80 liters per second but inclusive of the full size of the reservoir. So down the road in 10, 12, 15 years when the next stage would go forward to have the second process train and possibly a third well, we would re-engage at that point either with Associated Engineering through the Water Services Board or through some other mechanism and there would be an extra cost at that time, 10, 12 or 15 years from now to add those extra few items in. **Kevin** – Ok, so \$200,000 would get us to construction documents for tender? **Phil Pawluk** – Yes. **Kevin** – Ok and you foreseehave you received quotes on that already or is that just like a budget right now? **Phil Pawluk** – For the engineering? **Kevin** – Yah. **Phil Pawluk** – Uh that's been awarded to Associated Engineering already in 2021. **Kevin** – Ok. I see. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien (without his mike on)** – Uh Georgina. Can you hear me now? **Georgina Mustard – (without mike)** Ya, I can hear you. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, ya, we can hear you now. **Georgina Mustard** – Ok, perfect, um I guess I have a question for Phil. Uh what does he mean when uh when he said that uh the water could be um like pulled per truckload. Does that make sense? **Phil Pawluk** –Oh, so is that a question in relation to the truck fill station that's proposed for the plant. (yep) Yes, so we ...there has been a need identified in the past through RM documentation and that, that they had planned to build a truck fill station I believe on Provincial Road 206 actually right across on Cedar Lake Road so there was a study done at the time and the capital cost estimates to put a truck fill station for anybody who wanted to purchase water and I believe that cost estimate came back at \$250,000. at the time so when we look at the life cycle of the cost of that, the RM could not recover enough money to pay for that facility. So the added benefit that were putting into this water plant is to create a truck fill station to purchase bulk truck water at a, at the rate that would be prescribed through the Municipal Boa... or through the Public Utilities Board and the rate study. **Georgina Mustard** –And who would be buying that water? **Phil Pawluk** –Who could buy that water, sorry? **Georgina Mustard** – Yes. **Phil Pawluk** – Um anybody in the RM

that would want to purchase it so as you know, right now in Dugald at the Rec Centre or Curling Club there's a ... a well run by the Ag Society (ya) so that water's available to anybody in the RM ... actually it's available really to anybody who knows about it and they take that water at no cost. So that's just the reality, it's, it's a public well, it's provided by the...it's subs...it's supported by the RM through the Ag Society. This would be another station that anybody could come and buy water at the prevailing rate. **NOTE: Then I assume the RM would take steps to close the availability of water from the Ag Society facility because if they were assigning a price to the water, they could not compete with water being given away for free.** Georgina Mustard – Ok but then you're saying that this one is to buy water, the one at the community club is free, is that what you're saying? Phil Pawluk – Yes, it's free but it's a low volume pump. Um a lot of contractors will call if they're doing roadwork in town or in the RM or drilling in fibre optic cables, they will call and they'll ask if they can purchase water, either say from the Anola Water Plant or in Dugald or at the Anola or Oakbank plant but we always steer them to that plant because there is no cost to it and it's well water and there's no treatment needs to it, it's just, it operates at a lower volume than what we would put in at the new Water Treatment Plant.

Georgina Mustard – Ok. Thanks. Mayor Therrien – That's it, uh Georgina? Georgina Mustard – Maybe I'll ask one more if that's ok. Mayor Therrien – Sure. Georgina Mustard – Um ... Mayor Therrien – Sorry, M'am, could you just identify yourself uh for people in the audience. I didn't hear you. Go ahead. Michelle Sopak – Michelle Sopak. Mayor Therrien – Ok. Michelle Sopak – Um Highway 15 is already a difficult um road to travel on, especially uh for commuters... commuters. So what would there be, any plan put in place when we go ahead and uh look at all these developments that will be happening ... this way. Mayor Therrien – Um I think we were just mainly on the Water Treatment Plant there but uh I'll answer the question, uh it's been asked before, we've had discussions with the Minister of uh uh Highways uh um I apologize I forget her name um but uh we were actually pursuing uh all the uh measures uh required there uh for 15, the volume uh specified on there shows that it still um within, within the means uh there uh and that's kind of uh a safety issue, it always has been for me uh when I was patrolling that area there but uh um uh the Highways Minister uh we were actually going to be meeting uh with her down the line as well. We're going to be addressing all these issues, there's several issues uh pedestrian crossings and all that uh. I hope that answers your question.

NOTE: Even when I was on Council, such issues were discussed at these Conventions with various entities and generally speaking, nothing came of them. Michelle Sopak – Sure, ya I know this is more like in regards to the Water Treatment Plant but uh because of the... right so ... Mayor Therrien – Ok. Thank you very much, M'am. (ok) Ummm I think we've had two on line uh there, uh anybody else for information uh purposes before we carry on? Gloria? Oh, sorry, Gloria. Um I'm going to go with this gentleman cause he had his hand up before you so and you're next then Gloria. Ted Mathers – My name is Ted Mathers and um my question is for the Manitoba Water Services Board regarding um a water plant that I think hementioned a new one in Lac du Bonnet and um I'm from Lac du Bonnet and I haven't heard about a new one yet so is it possible Mayor Therrien – Sure, Mr. Wittmeier there. He'll be right beside you Sir and you can answer uh ... Neil Wittmeier, Water Services Board – Good evening. Neil Wittmeier from Water Services Board. Um we aren't working on a new plant with them right now but we are doing a Water Plant Study with them so looking at the capacity of a plant, and the possibility to extend it out of Lac du Bonnet. Ted Mathers – Now are you going to go with the old plant or a brand new plant? Neil Wittmeier – Um we're just kicking it off so we don't know yet, we're still trying to find the answer to that one. Ted Mathers – Uh golly that was a surprise to hear that one. Mayor Therrien – laughing. Ted Mathers – And no answers yet. Mayor Therrien – I'm surprised, Ted, you came all the way down from Lac du Bonnet to get your answer here in RM of Springfield. (laughing) Ted Mathers – No actually uh I came down because that was Provincial and I came down because I read your by-law and uh I'm not a very good fan of uh ... what's the word I'm looking for, I just lost it. Uh... Mayor Therrien – Borrowing ... borrowing money. Ted Mathers – No, I'm not a fan of that either if it's not...if you can do it without like but it uh going out uh out of bounds or in bounds but covering the whole area. That uh... I've been following water for uh over 60 years now and uh I've done a lot of work on system development charges uh in Manitoba and uh I followed Mr. Trudeau and uh for many years...I thought he had a idea which he called his infrastructure bank but I sensed in the last few days, I picked up a lot of stuff uh people questioning things that he's doing and uh you know if we go up out of "at large", there's some pretty tough things when you have uh system development charges where your money is and how you use it. And I don't know how many people know Black Rock. Black Rock is one of the biggest uh investors in infrastructure and Mr. Trudeau ... Mayor Therrien – Um I'm just going to.... Ted Mathers – ... a couple of days ago asked ... Mayor Therrien – Ted, I'm uh I'm sorry, we've got to keep this towards the Water Treatment uh Plant uh ... Ted Mathers – Well, this is what I'm getting at... Mayor Therrien – Ok. Ted Mathers – I'd heard the year 25 mentioned. Two days ago or three days ago Mr. Trudeau put a request in to Black Rock, He wants a hundred and eighty billion dollars (\$180,000,000,000.) in 4 years to build up this infrastructure money so I don't know how that's going to work out because I don't think Black Rock has all that money either because they took an awful hit in a couple of days on the markets. Mayor Therrien – Thank you very much uh Sir. Is that just a comment, I guess uh... Ted Mathers – Well, that's uh... Mayor Therrien – It's kind of out of bounds, you're right. But uh I'm respectful. Um ok we'll, we'll take that under our consideration uh Ted. Ted Mathers – Well thank you very much for allowing me to speak. **NOTE: I think the point Mr. Mathers was trying to make is that perhaps borrowing in not always the best policy. One can get in too deep and find themselves paying copious amounts of interest on the debt.** Mayor Therrien – Well, you're a gentleman, Sir. Thank you very much. Ted Mathers – Thank you. Mayor Therrien – Thank you. Uh Gloria. Gloria Romaniuk – Thank you, thank you very much for the opportunity to speak tonight. My name is Gloria Romaniuk and I'm from uh Cooks Creek. I've been a longtime citizen in the RM of Springfield. Um I have a question for, I think it's Mr. Wittmeier, were you saying Sir that um that you would be helping the RM obtain grant money? Neil Wittmeier – So, um, since the project has not yet received the full 50% funding, we will be looking for opportunities to be able to provide the whole 50% funding for that if there would be a Provincial program that would come out that uh uh there'd be an application submitted on, we would definitely look to try to fully fund it as best as we were able to. Gloria Romaniuk – Thank you. Don't go yet. Mayor Therrien – laughing. Gloria Romaniuk – I'm wondering if you could explain to all of us where grant money comes from. Neil Wittmeier – Ok ... so you give grant money to the government and the government gives you money back um so (laughing) it is raised from taxes or from debt so either if the government is running at a deficit, then they're leveraging the deficit to be able to um facilitate that spending or it's coming through taxes if they're running at a surplus. Gloria Romaniuk – Uh if I'm paying my property tax, and if it goes up to help pay for the new Water Treatment Plant, and the Provincial Government is providing grants uh am I paying two sets of taxes towards the Water Treatment Plant? Neil Wittmeier – No, you're paying for both out of different pockets so uh... Gloria Romaniuk – High pockets. Neil Wittmeier – But still we aim for the best that uh that different so um it is, it is helpful um you know throughout the Province there's different times when these arise so then the government has allocated these uh spending programs to be able to pass the coordinates for that. Gloria Romaniuk – Thank you that's goodand I think it's Ken, were you saying that um I'm very interested in when you are using the reverse osmosis process and you have waste, you called it waste management and I believe you said that it would be stored in uh a holding tank kind of retention pond, alright and you were uh really trying hard to give us an estimate of the amount and we all, I think you agree, you said that reverse osmosis is quite an expensive uh an

expensive process and you're trying to keep the cost down and further to that you were saying between winter freeze up time and summer that you would do different things with the waste. Now is the Cooks Creek Diversion part of the Lake Winnipeg Watershed? Anybody? **Mayor Therrien** – That's uh a Jeff uh question there. **Neil Wittmeier** – You did a lot of research (laughing). **Gloria Romaniuk** – Absolutely not. Very simple question. **Neil Wittmeier** – I don't know right off the top of my head, if Cooks Creek part of the Watershed ... about the Red River like everything sort of ends up ... **Gloria Romaniuk** – Is that an admitted kind of thing ... **Neil Wittmeier** – Well, what we are doing, I would say yes, it's a pretty small kind of flow, I don't think it would be germane to that. **Gloria Romaniuk** – I'm going to make a comment to Council. I think you should really take his expertise comment to heart and really if he doesn't know about it, you guys should for all of us. There's tremendous threat to the Lake Winnipeg watershed. I'm astounded Sir. I am astounded. Ok the...I, I did ask this question. Mr. Mayor, um at the Baptist Church town house or open house, there were forms on the table and I was sitting right by the podium and I did hear you, Sir, say that all of us there should take the forms home, fill them out at the table or bring them back to the RM office. You assured us that the answers all would be available on, on line. I kept checking day after day because I wrote at least 4 questions. I found the answers today. Could anybody tell me who made the answers? Who wrote the answers? **Mayor Therrien** – Um I guess you ... **Phil Pawluk** – I wrote the majority of the answers. **Gloria Romaniuk** – Alright, could I ask you Sir, then were you combining some of the questions? **Phil Pawluk** – I took the questions as they're listed on the public notice, the public document. Those are the questions that came to me. **Gloria Romaniuk** – Were they typed out the way they were written? **Phil Pawluk** – That I don't know because I didn't have the original written copies. I was just given... **Gloria Romaniuk** – So yes then ... **Phil Pawluk** – Yes. **Gloria Romaniuk** – My questions, I found them towards the end, were not the way I wrote them. My name was not by them. I wish my name had been by the question. I'm wondering why the names were not by the questions. **Phil Pawluk** – Um sure, that's fair enough. So that kind of came up at a Council meeting where there was I guess from privacy sort of similar to a Council meeting where there was dialogue about whether or not some of these names should be attached to questions that are put out to the public so I can't answer why the names were omitted from the document I received, I just took the type that were document questions and answered them as they were presented to our Fire Department. **Gloria Romaniuk** – Ok, because you're a paid public official, are... it's probably good for you to read the Privacy Act, I mean I filled out this form at a public event, I put my name on it, my address was asked for, I gave you my private information. I would appreciate having, um first of all, the questions respected individually by the person who wrote them and secondly, I found that the answers were not very relevant, they were kind of rote, sort of generally repeated without uh paying attention to the actual intent of the question. I didn't find them useful. But I would like to know why they appeared on the Web Site just before this meeting. It's not very useful. **Mayor Therrien** – Um I don't know. Maybe I can get some more information from Colleen with regard to that. **CAO Draper** – Uh, I don't know offhand what date we actually put it on there but as soon as ... **Gloria Romaniuk** – interrupting I've been checking day after day. **CAO Draper** – Ya, so as soon as they were ready uh we did post them on our Municipal Web Site and on the Special Meeting agenda that I believe was posted on Monday? **Gloria Romaniuk** – Well, at 3 this afternoon is when I found these uh questions. **CAO Draper** – Uh these, these have been posted on the Special Agenda since Monday so.... **Gloria Romaniuk** – Oh, I couldn't find them. Thank you to Christy for telling me where to look. It...it really wasn't that easy. **Mayor Therrien** – Uh one minute there M'am they can... **Gloria Romaniuk** – Alright so thank you. Uh perhaps you can answer this one but anybody else can as well, you came on board in the year ... ok ... and the genesis of this Water Treatment Plant was? **Phil Pawluk** – When I started looking at it.... no ... sorry when I started getting into the details of it was in early 2021, early 2021. **Gloria Romaniuk** – Um but uh as the Mayor has said, it's been in discussion for a long time. Who made the actual decision to start hiring consultants and partners? **Phil Pawluk** – Well, it ... so the Mayor is not wrong in that it has been going back a decade so in conversations with the Planning Department dating back to even before the Development Plan came around I believe 2017 or 2018 correct me if I'm wrong there was talk in the Planning Department and with Council and Administration at the time that there was a foreseeable need for the expansion of the Water Plant subject to the Development Plan so when I came on Board in 2021 or 2020, August of 2020, it was brought to my attention that the Development Plan was in place and we were slowly looking at high level ... **Gloria Romaniuk** – Well, I'll thank you right now, I'll save my last 10 seconds for the Finance Officer. When was the first cheque written to a consultant? **Amram Bangura** – So here is the Finance Manager again. As mentioned, um we've had the Manitoba Water Services Board has paid some invoices for the design of the plant and that was budgeted for in our 2023 Capital um budget and so we paid uh 50% of those invoices to the Water Services Board sometime in the year 2023. **Gloria Romaniuk** – 23? **Amram Bangura** – Yes. **Gloria Romaniuk** – Ok, so that is my pocket and my pocket, that that money came out of, grant and the RM or just grant? **NOTE: Someone speaks without benefit of microphone and I can't hear what they said.** Oh, sorry, alright so I'm just asking you, was it only grant money which came out of my right pocket that I paid for already or it was also RM money which was my property taxes also? **Phil Pawluk** – Yes. So at the beginning of the project, the project was put on through the utility and that money to start the funding for the project came out of the Capital Water Levy Reserve **Gloria Romaniuk** – The Reserve. **Phil Pawluk** – ... which was paid for by the water payers in town in 2021 and of course a bill was written. **Gloria Romaniuk** – But they're already paying for this project. **Phil Pawluk** – They started the process, yes. **Gloria Romaniuk** – Alright. Thank you. Ok. **Phil Pawluk** – On the water in 2021 and 22. **Gloria Romaniuk** – Thank you cause I'm told this is going to benefit me somehow probably the same year I had to redrill my well and pay for it out of my back pocket. It's all got to come from somewhere. Thank you very much for your time. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, Gloria. Thank you. Uh more information uh there uh Diane. And right after Mrs. uh White, we can get into the uh next uh uh phase support and then in opposition. Go ahead, M'am. **Carolyn White** - Good evening. My name is Carolyn White. I've lived in RM of Springfield for 40 years. Um my question tonight is um about the developers, they will be making a profit um on their developments in our RM. Uh your plan is to assess future developers uh capital water levy of \$8500. per REU, that's my understanding correctly, um and my question might be going to Mr. Fuhl because you've been here the longest at Council chambers. Uh my question is, how has this capital water levy amount that our RM charges for developers changed for the last 20 years. Is \$8500. per REU a fair amount and are the developers getting a better deal than the Springfield residents? **Mayor Therrien** – Ordinarily M'am it'll go through, through me but uh it's understandable. Uh Glen if you could answer that, if not, we can take it too. **Councillor Fuhl** – Ya I can tell you that we hire consultants to do the study and they came back with the pricing to what it would be of the \$8500. It was lower before. I can't remember the exact number, maybe Colleen or um yup, go ahead. **Phil Pawluk** – Mrs. White. So originally the documentation that we have was that the REU charges were around \$3200. about a decade ago. Uh Stantec Consulting was brought in I believe 20, 6, 15, 2016 and did a Capital Water or Capital Sewer levy and I believe at the time they charged \$5200. per REU and I believe \$4,000. for sewer REU, that was in 2016. Again it's in the Report. I'm very close on those numbers, so those numbers carried on. In 2020 again when I came on board, and we started looking at capital levy cost projects, and um Mark Prydun who was our Capital/Asset Manager, we started looking at the numbers internally. Uh we had reviewed with Council at the time. Uh we had suggested to Council that they should look at these rates again in 2020 so we had gone back to Stantec Consulting. Stantec Consulting had given us a quote of \$21,000. to update this

document. Uh we looked at it internally. Uh Mark Prydun who was a numbers specialist came from Manitoba Hydro with 30 years of experience in this sort of thing, we ran the numbers internally, we ran about 20 different iterations of what the charges should be and they ranged anywhere from a low of \$6,000 to a range of \$10,000 and so as we tightened up our iteration there, we ended up running it through a charge at \$8,000 for water and \$5,000 for sewer in May 20 ... or is that the 2021, 2022 rates and 2023 and then it's moved up to \$8,500 for 2024. And again we will now with the Fees and Charges Bylaw which I believe it expires at the end of 2024, the RM will look at all the fees and charges that are charged and will rerun those iterations again to see based on where the Water Project comes back at and where the needs are going to go sort of how these iterations when we run those numbers if we're still on target or we need to up that or make the adjustments. So we are doing that internally as we move forward. **Carolyn White** - How do I know as Joe Average citizen that this is a good amount that developers should pay compared to what we will be paying in taxes. **Phil Pawluk** - Yes, so that is a good question. So it ... in part of that, when we run the iterations there, we also look at what other um RMs are charging in terms of their levies and I believe we right now are the second highest in overall charges for Capital Levies per REU, per lot size REU in the greater municipal or Winnipeg region. I believe East St. Paul is slightly higher than us. So we have the highest water and sewer rates in the region right now at thirteen and half thousand dollars per REU in that house. **Carolyn White** - Ok, thank you very much. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you very much, M'am. Um we've gotten lots of information out there so we could proceed to um the portion uh where people can speak uh in support. Uh I'll go on line first uh I don't see anybody there. Uh in the audience, uh those in support that would like to talk **with regards** to this and I don't see anybody uh sir? **Adam Rossol** - Good evening, Mr. Mayor, Councillors. Uh Adam Rossol, Vice President with RDI ??? Ivancoand you know taking a look at this entire project and looking at it from an executive standpoint and you know, looking at it from all angles. How many private wells are there in the town of Oakbank? The water department right now is estimating that to be 806 private water wells in Oakbank. The Vester investigation identified 400 in the town of Oakbank in 1991 so what we conclude or what we can conclude is that roughly 50% of all Oakbank wells are potentially speaking 30 plus years old and are nearing or at near end of life. We all know deteriorating well casing can certainly cause groundwater contamination, something to think about. When we take a look at the entire project, if we were to say no to it tonight, no Provincial funding, the funding goes away so that's \$10.6 million dollars lost, no affordable housing **NOTE: STOP RIGHT THERE. To me, and I think to many, \$400,000. is not affordable.** or housing options in the RM. We have enough REUs right now for the RDI Phase One, 63 ¾ um where we see fit. That doesn't include or that wouldn't include options like the rental properties like the multi-family etc. No senior living center that's already sold out and wait listed even before it's built. And no Rec Center. What happens to that funding? That's another \$4.7 million dollars lost. We're talking about how do we retain or how do we get back some of that tax dollars that is in our right pocket. This is an opportunity for us to take some of that money back and invest it into the community. As a community that certainly has a lot of entrepreneurs and business owners, some employees, and a lot of taxpayers that want to be financially responsible, we need to ask ourselves, are we prepared to lose the hold of \$16 million dollars. That's \$16 million dollars that we...if we say no to this Water Treatment Plant, poof, it's gone. Ya, we can reapply but can we even get it back. We already have it. And you know what, Andy, from the January 31st Open House, I appreciate um you guys holding that, and I'm going to leave everybody with a quote from yourself. "I just can't imagine why previous Councils and Administration didn't put this project forward. They knew a water treatment plant was needed, everybody wants it, and did nothing. Let's all pull in the same direction and let's do something about it." Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** - Thank you, Mr. Rossol. Uh Mark. **Councillor Miller** - Um Mr. Mayor, just for some clarity, I thought I had heard Mr. Wittmeier say that that funding had, actually isn't disappearing, it's uh still there. We want to see progress on the initiative, absolutely, but it just doesn't vanish out of thin air, right. **Neil Wittmeier** - So, we do have limitations, I'm Nathan Wittmeier, Water Services Board. We, we do have limitations on how far we can stretch that funding uh approval. So if uh if the project would go stale, we would need to re-seek Provincial approval um for the same dollars and they might say, well we approved it 5 years ago and they didn't come to it, I'm not sure what they would say but there is a limitation on our department funding. **Councillor Miller** - Thank you. And uh just some clarity from our Director of Water, is there enough water for today for Rec Center and any of the senior's complexes, uh how much capacity do we have to go forward with at the present time? If, let's say we didn't go forward with this, I'm not saying we won't but **Phil Pawluk** - So as of right now, the Rec Center is not included in the current system. I know there was some dialogue today on social media uh we should be cognizant of the Rec Center. There was suggestions that the Rec Center could run itself on a well. Uh the facility is 53,000 sq. ft. Um it's occupancy is probably going to be a Class A or a Class B so it is going to require protection and a sprinkler system so the theory then is you could run the Rec Center on a well but you'd have to spend probably another \$2 million dollars at the Rec Center to build up it's own cistern and it's own fire protection system in the Rec Center itself. So you can... so then you can look at it from the ideological point that either we can take \$2 million dollars and put it into the new Water Plant and have all the fire protection and pumping capacity there and just a pipe to feed the sprinkler system or we can take \$2 million and put it into the Rec Center and build it's own fire protection system. So we should be very clear that that would be a contingency for the Rec Center. So from an engineering point, it makes sense to put that money into the reservoir, the water plant, and the sprinkler system is fed by the new water plant so ya so the Rec Center is not in the existing system. So I guess I want to apologize to Ms. Nylen so we should talk about what is available right now, there's only a few lots left that are buildable lots in the RM. Um we do talk about the 93 for Qualico um I'm sure everybody's aware that Qualico has plans for that piece of land here, it's been publicly discussed, they're looking at 500 REUs. As some people may be aware how Qualico builds, they're looking for a bigger trough than just 100 REUs to begin their process of moving forward so their project is contingent on the Water Plant project moving forward so similar to the one across the road here, they're looking at 800 REUs, again that's spread over that 20 year window, maybe less, um Wheatlands which has 95 REUs, they have yet to put a shovel on the ground but I believe they want to start this Spring and then we talk about the Rossol subdivision who's been allocated 64 REUs with their big piece of land and then there's talk about commercial development so right now there is no physical building space left if you want to look at it that way, just short of a few lots left. **NOTE: I doubt there will be a lot of commercial development. Right now, there is little in Oakbank, virtually none to speak of in Dugald where the mall is sitting empty, all the businesses having moved out, the Credit Union, the coffee shop etc. Springfield is too close to Winnipeg with all it's commerce and most people commute to Winnipeg for work so they shop or whatever on the way home.** We get phone calls, the Planning Department gets phone calls, at the Utility for more apartment blocks on Main Street, uh possibly another restaurant, and so forth so right now we're having the same note, all those facilities because on paper it's full. **NOTE: The one restaurant of size in Oakbank is rarely ever anywhere near full. I have been there a lunchtime, supper and in between and it is never full to capacity. There is food available in the motel and other storefronts as well.** So is it premature? I guess that question is debatable about what premature is. We're looking to have a facility built 3 years from now which would coincide then with all the developers bringing their pieces in and moving forward. If we're talking about today, we would probably be pre...we would be behind schedule so it's a complex situation that involves not just the utility on it's own but Council, their vision for the RM, uh the developers and how they want to

move their pieces along and ya, so it's not quite cut and dried, it's a complex thing about moving the projects slowly and responsibly forward to make sure we're being fiscally responsible and socially responsible for everybody. **Councillor Miller** – Thank you and I just have a follow-up question for Mr. Rossol. Uh thank you for your commitment to seniors in our community, I'm a strong advocate that we're underserved for seniors, no question about it. I think uh there's an opportunity for you to support the uh the Dugald new seniors complex in terms of a donation going forward, that's great. In terms of affordable housing I also look forward to you making affordable housing in our community, whether that be \$150,000 or \$200,000 thousand. No one can determine unless you can give us a number heretoday, what is affordable housing. I know we went through this dialogue before, it's based on uh you know what is someone willing to pay and so forth but to be frank, \$150,000, \$200,000 in our community is something that I would call affordable, not three hundred, four hundred, six hundred thousand so.... **Mike Rossol, RDI** - So ok if we talk about affordable housing, ... **Mayor Therrien** – Just state your name, Sir, for the **Mike Rossol** - I'm Mike Rossol with RDI. If you go to rent an apartment as a first-time renter, and you fill out that application form, they look at what...how much did your rent cost and how much money do you make. And it's outlined to say that a third of your income ... you cannot spend more on housing than a third of your income so if you look at someone making \$25 dollars an hour which is \$200 a day, a thousand dollars a week, \$52,000 a year, a third of that is roughly speaking seventeen hundred, seventeen thousand a year. Divide that by 12, that brings you to \$1430. per month, what you can spend on housing. We are committed to bring to market the product that the RM is currently missing and that is lower priced housing and the average of what houses are selling which is \$520,000. We are definitely committed to make it as cost effective as possible which is why we're here to ask, let's all pull together, make it as cost effective as possible, and we will re-invest that into the community by making that type of housing available as cost effectively as possible. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you. Ok um anybody else uh in support. If not, then we'll go to uh ... **Val Ralke** - Yes, I would like to speak. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok. Go ahead, uh Val. **Val Ralke** – Hi, thank you. Some very great information this evening. Thank you very much. Um I want to thank you all, I know I've sent my information forward to all of Council and I think you've probably had a chance to read the ...the information I've added. I do want to just state that I am in favour of the Dugald Oakbank Water Treatment uh By-law 24-01. Um I feel that communities are meant to grow. Never in the history of mankind were individuals directed to choose just a certain number of citizens that were going to live in an area and not allow anyone else to attempt or join. Never was a homeowner told that never renovate their home or expand their living area if they increased their family unit. If we were to listen to a few individuals who are struggling within our community, I can assure you Springfield wouldn't exist today. They will argue that we need to slow development down but according to Stats Canada, in twenty years, 20 years, Springfield has only increased by 3500 people. I can assure you it's time to step up. Springfield is a municipality within the Province of Manitoba and in the country of Canada. There are a hundred and thirty-seven municipalities that make up the Province of Manitoba. The Province shares its tax revenue with all for different needs and wants. If we don't pass this by-law, the funding we have been approved for can go elsewhere. Will it? We're unsure. We have seen that our funding has been removed from us when we don't use it. **NOTE: I would like Ms. Ralke to back up that statement with fact.** And I feel that if we don't increase and protect our water supply to increase our population, we will miss that opportunity. The Province won't be wasting their time on a community that can't make their mind up and only argue. **NOTE: The more housing, the more need for a full time Fire Department and the spouse of Ms. Ralke, I believe, is a volunteer fireman. Perhaps she has more than a vested interest in increased residential development.** If that happens, taxes will increase, they will not only increase, they will explode where residents leave because we've had six friends who have left Springfield. They say it has a lot to do with Springfield not going anywhere. They want to go to a vibrant, happy community and some have moved next door to Tache and Lorette. **NOTE: Why did they move to a rural community in the first place if they wanted to live in a developed area? Further, in my opinion, Tache is a responsibly led community where development of services only occurs in conjunction with actual residential development, not in advance of it. Those who do not benefit are not expected to pay for services required by those that do.** Council will have to decide where to start reducing services. I have heard from many rural residents that they get nothing, I mean absolutely nothing yet when the Municipality can no longer pay for the next grader cause it breaks down or fire engine, drainage project, grass cutting, road improvement, they will get to see exactly where their taxes go but it'll be too late. They will not be able to afford it. In comparison to the thousands and thousands of kilometers of roads, ditches, drainage areas within our rural community, I can guess a large chunk of our budget goes to those things in comparison to the town of Dugald and Oakbank which is quite minimal. **NOTE: What about garbage pickup? And street lighting and other amenities afforded those in town? Rural dwellers pay for those services in their property taxes yet do not have the benefit of them.** Where is the water which is the flip side to the rural roads and drainage that is expended for the towns to use the water. When roads wash out or blown in, damaged by frost boils and if anybody's driven any of those roads this evening, I can tell you I almost lost my car on Springfield. We should ask the urban residents, the ones in town, if they want to support the hundreds of thousands of dollars it's going to take to fix and repair these roads. Maybe they don't feel like it. When a person chooses to live on rural property, we are immediately fully aware of our responsibilities. If our well collapses, dries up for any reason, it is our responsibility. **NOTE: Ms. Ralke seems to be making the argument that one should only pay for the services that we receive and that is precisely why rural residents do not want to pay for a water treatment plant that will only service those who live in the towns.** We don't go running to anybody to pay for our costs. It is our choice to live on property. If we don't pass this by-law, the Province has other communities and citizens next door to us who are embracing development and advancement. Tunnel vision will destroy all factors that represent communities. Healthy, vibrant, well-established financially sound committees communities are the goal of all existence. Begrudging others from living in a rural setting whether urban or country is not who we are. Each person has had the opportunity who are here today to live on subdivided lands. Most of us know family members who have been here for hundreds of years, for a hundred years. They were given that opportunity. For \$15 a month for me to support development to offer our young adults a place to rent, for our seniors and elderly a place to live, it would be an honour. If we have a bunch of families lined up to complain if we did, I would understand that \$15 dollars a month would be way too much. If, but we have farmers whose assessments are over a million dollars complaining that they can't afford the fifteen, or twenty, or twenty-five dollars a month. I apologize to them for that. ??? They are valuable and we need them as farmers. They feed us. **NOTE: Why hasn't Mayor Therrien interrupted Ms. Ralke who is way off topic and campaigning obviously for her run at the next election, having lost in the last.** We have elderly citizens who complain repeatedly that they can't afford it. I have to assume that 90% of those individuals have no mortgages, have no loans, and have minimal expenses. **NOTE: And have worked and saved all their lives to be in that position. And now there are being expected to support interest on a gigantic loan for something that will be of absolutely no benefit to them. Some reward for being so responsible.** My Mom at 94 pays all her taxes, bills, groceries and is thrilled to support her community. I want you to know I support this bylaw and I support our community and I support all in it. Thank you for, for hearing me. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, Mrs. uh Ralke. Ok uh um anybody else for uh support uh, we'll go to uh in opposition uh next. Nobody...uh Edwin. This is in for support? **Edwin Giesbrecht** – I mean I'm in support of Ms.

Ralke's position that I love my Municipality but not everything else she said. **Mayor Therrien** – So uh we're going to uh put it out there for uh people in uh opposition and I'll go on line. I don't see anybody at this moment uh here then I'll go in the audience uh **there**. Umgo ahead uh Edwin. **Edwin Giesbrecht** – I appreciate that. As you know, I am on my so I felt it important but uh to attend this evening. Thank you for that. **Mayor Therrien** – No problem. **Edwin Giesbrecht** – And I would also especially like to thank you uh on your opening for a decorum here for 10 minutes to be uninterrupted. What I'd like to address is first of all, as far as being against developers, no. Riverdale Realty, we were bird-doggers for developers, working with developers for a quarter century, high end developers. **Mayor Therrien** – Edwin, if you could just ...just talk towards me. **Edwin Giesbrecht** – Uh Winnipeg, Palm Springs, Dallas, these people developed. So I'm not against development. What people are really against in this circumstance is the tax increases. It's their pocket book. Follow the money. When we built in 1971, our first annual tax bill was \$98. That's a far cry from today and uh costs always increase. But... but that was then, this is now. During the Dugald/Oakbank Open House last Fall, our CAO hinted that a user-pay exclusionary that might be available for the vast majority. Under a general borrowing system, absolutely NOT. But under a Local Improvement, yes and that is more fair to the community at large. Um as I look through this, what I really wanted to come here for because I am known to think outside the box, is a straight-forward solution, maybe some unequivocal alternatives for consideration and beyond Provincial grant apportionment there remains the Federal commitment that has been looked at and discussed and that should be pursued. Maybe if something is right around the corner, a slight delay might bring us into a Program. Privatizing an entity, the right to build and lease back a treatment plant under a user-pay model without affecting current ratepayers is real. It's done all over the world. Developers can establish an entity, develop a treatment plant at their cost, modular if need be, recovering expenses through future user costs on their properties, generally preceded by capping services one foot from the property line, creating caveat for future user-pay hook ups. The ACM, all kinds of developers would do that, just stop services a foot shy of their property line and if the next guy wants to hook up, that...you've got to pay. And we've got to discuss that. There is um drawing from past experiences, leverage of developers for funding of comprehensive infrastructure development as part of the consulting brokerage and family realty corporation that we held with my father as President on behalf of uh extremely prosperous developers represented directly in dealing with a truly region of Balderstone in the Rural Municipality of West St. Paul. In a nutshell in the time of 18% mortgage rates, we established pre-sales with developers wholly funding treatment plants and underground services including Hydro, concrete, not asphalt streets, hundred-year flood systems, land dedication for park systems including tennis courts, fancy walkways, in lieu of 10% cash dedications, funding and service access roads, construction necessary parking lots, boat launches with docks, tree plantations throughout to say the least. This was all accomplished while competing with the developers, multi-millions of dollars, that simply could have been deposited in on 15% returns without risk management concerns at the bank. These developments were successfully completed. The best interests of each and every stakeholder involved, including Belvus. All the new residents were prosperous progress for the municipality. Um given Mayor your recent um proclamation, land acknowledgement Treaty One, peoples and Metis nations contrary to question of Federal jurisdiction, it could be encouraged that we could also approach First Nations for a funding of a treatment plant and they might take that challenge on and be a water steward. They may have access to Federal funding and Provincial funding well beyond what we can even begin to imagine. They could be the toll keepers, user pay system, that...they could even move toward if you thought of reflecting on the Kapyon Barracks in Winnipeg, Dugald could become an urban sprawl reserve tax haven. That possibility exists. Those are just some potential there but there's another potential and I had the opportunity to reach out and have a conversation, I mean it was either yesterday or the day before, with a Chief, Kevin Redsky. Chief Kevin Redsky is the Chief of the Shoal Lake um community. He's responsible for the Shoal Lake water that feeds our aqueduct for the City of Winnipeg. Now there's been some people that have some communities, municipalities that have tried to tap that water source via the City of Winnipeg and they've had their difficulties and run into their brick wall but we weren't successful in real estate without thinking beyond a brick wall. With um Chief Kevin Redsky, I think it's just fair. He asked me to send him an e-mail to reiterate our discussion and I'm just going to quickly read that here and it goes directly to our water treatment and our water. As to our discussion around 11:15 a.m. this morning I will get point on below and apologies regarding phone, I have no income duplex power display while on phone which is why your two calls received busy signals. To reiterate I reached out to your and your community in regard to your water and historical agreement City of Winnipeg. My understanding has been that the City could not disperse water outside the city boundary due to the nature of the agreement. To this end, my question to you and community was as to availability to be privy to such dispersal. I fully disclose I was a well-known respected elder, 63 years of age, of my community here in Springfield, Manitoba. I express that given the extensive background in real estate development, that I could see possibility of beneficial for all parties, all parties. I express rather than my community borrowing money to build a water treatment plant, that with fair and respectful considerations suspect possibility of an advantageous for all parties. I was clear that I do not represent the authority of Springfield but dearly embrace my community at large. I was clear that the community has become divided over the debt issue. I was clear that I would be making presentation here in Oakbank on February 8th, 2024. You indicated there was of no commitment or of agreement or inference of our discussions clearly. I discussed my forthrightness. I indicated if need be would be happy to consult. You indicated of a tripartite agreement, well pardon me, you were clear that you had your own team as appreciated. You indicated a tripartite agreement that you operate under or through and would need to speak to counterparts and associates, clearly expressed that on the basis of our initial mutual respect, then it would be necessary to bring it to the attention of local government should there be any viability. Your kind consideration to take the time to speak with an elder about things outside the box was heartening and felt that on such short notice that February might be difficult as you need to speak to people well. I requested if possible that I might access the tripartite agreement which respectfully I have a copy of the memorandum uh agreement added in June of 89. On that note, it was on my privilege and pleasure to reach out and that is where that has been left off where he is going to speak to some people, the tripartite is between the Province, the City of Winnipeg and the Reserve and of course, would need ratification by Federal authority. He needs to speak to some people. It would be up to Council to pick up and run with the ball. It would behoove, I would say Council, not to pursue what could be an absolutely win, win, win and especially if all of a sudden there was the ability to tap off with a pumping station here at the Floodway off the City of Winnipeg treatment plant, come straight down through the Manitoba Hydro right of way and caveats of the line because then we can put a pipeline through fast, 8 days. I work pipeline. I've worked pipeline for Enbridge and other people and come into that 8 mile stretch into Dugald and now you've got water and you don't have to worry about treatment plants. You don't have to worry about maintenance. So what I'll do is I would ask Christy here in regards to the City of ...the City and the Province shall make every effort to promote economic development beneficial to the Band in the Shoal Lake area. It is understood that this obligation is consistent with the preservation of water quality. That's just one issue under the memorandum agreement of partite south. I'll give this to Christy if you would just distribute that to each one, to each councillor and I would close in that we have approximately \$5 million dollars per annum in which to **Mayor Therrien interrupting** – Like 30 seconds there Edwin.

Edwin Giesbrecht - ... to put towards payments of our debt and \$15 million at 6 ½% 20 years is \$1.34 million per annum with the other projects in line, we're down a slippery slope and we can't afford that and all we need is interest rates up a bit and Mr. Mayor, I thank you for listening and again I do believe it would behoove Council not to pursue this issue, not only on behalf of Council but 16,000 residents and a two-thirds (2/3 rds.) majority at large so I thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, Edwin. Cheryl, did you have something uh ... what's that? Oh, ok. Um we'll do somebody in the aud.... or have somebody in the audience and then we'll go on line. Cheryl. **Cheryl Sinclair** – Good evening. I'm Cheryl Sinclair. Um first and foremost, I just want to say, I don't have a problem with building water treatment plants for Oakbank and uh Dugald. I absolutely don't. Everybody needs fresh, clean drinking water, right and I don't have a problem with that. What I have a problem with is making rural residents pay for it when it will not benefit us. We don't get ... I mean, yes, people can turn around and say to us, well you get your roads graded, you get your ditches cut and I will turn around and say I pay for that. My taxes pay for that. My taxes also pay for road clearing in Oakbank first and whatever other uh infrastructure maintenance they get. It also pays for cleaning lakes that I didn't choose to live around but the fact of the matter is, and I've talked to a number of friends and neighbours in my area, Cooks Creek, and I can't speak for every rural resident but I can speak for those that I talk... spoke to and for myself, it's just not fair. It's not fair that the rural residents in this area, in Springfield, get used as a slush fund whenever there's a huge debenture and a huge um cost for Oakbank and Dugald, we get hit with it and it's not fair. It isn't fair. Ten years ago, maybe 12 years ago, um we ended up paying for the water mains in Oakbank which um we didn't benefit from um and again, give us something. Give rural residents something back. Um for example, if you... if you want to build um a \$30,000,000 dollar water treatment plant, that's great and with more water usage, you're going to get more waste. You're going to need to build at some point a wastewater treatment plant because I'm sure the Province is going to say, no more lagoons because they're not environmentally friendly. So maybe just pass a bylaw that rural residents won't have to pay for that because it's not going to benefit us. We have our septic tanks, septic fields, we have our wells. Twelve years ago when I'm paying for water mains uh in Oakbank, I'm paying to put in a new well and that cost me thirteen thousand dollars (\$13,000.) at the time, I can't even imagine what it would cost now. So maybe pass a bylaw that the Municipality will pay for or subsidize um wells that need to be fixed or need to be replaced. I think that would be fair. Um uh maybe cut rural residences taxes so that we're, you know, we're paying for this already and maybe, maybe just go right back to the beginning and make this an LID for Oakbank and Dugald. I think they, I think they can afford it and I think rural residents are tired of being ... tired of being used as, you know, the slush fund. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, M'am. Uh George. Or is it Richard? Oh, I'm sorry, uh there's somebody on line. Kevin again? This is another Kevin. **Kevin** - Ya, hi everybody. Um can you hear me ok? (ya) Ok. Ya, so same sentiment. I'm not necessarily against the ... the water treatment uh project. I think if you want um to have more development, I think it's required from what it sounds like. Um I just put in a new, a new well and a new septic field and water treatment. It cost me \$50,000., a lot of money. And um so now when I, when I read the bylaw and saw that....and you know I don't get subsidized for that... so when I saw the bylaw saying that you know this project is potentially going to go ahead and that cost is going to be shared by everybody, even those in my situation where I don't have access to that supply, I do have a problem with that. Um I think it's a supply and demand issue and if I'm creating the demand, I have no problem paying for the supply but that's not the way that this is written and so you know when I read through it and it looked like there was quite a bit of money that could be generated out of the water levies, I think it was around \$44 million, um the debenture's around \$10.2 million so I guess I have a couple of questions. Um why, and I don't know who wrote it or how, it doesn't matter but I'm just wondering how ... how the RM came up with this to address it in this way, to share it among everybody and take this approach. Like what is the reasoning and the logic behind it and the intent and I'm also wondering out of that \$44 million, can, can we not do something with that to help subsidize more? And I think there's another opportunity, you know, the people that are going to benefit from this are the current users and future users um and the developers who are going to make a profit off of this. Um you know not anybody rural on their own wells. So I'm wondering if anybody has looked at those numbers and worked backwards from, you know, what would the cost be to be on per REU in order to not have to charge all the people that can't connect to it. You know, has that math been done? What would that rate be? Um anyway, that, that's a few questions, wondering if anybody would be able to provide some feedback on that.

Mayor Therrien – Uh can we do that? **CAO Draper** – Well, I can try and answer some of that and then maybe the Finance Manager can add more if I've missed anything but and so the bylaw is written with today's numbers. Um it indicates that we need to borrow \$12.563 million. Um we talked about uh you know between 3 and 4 million dollars in levies that we still have to collect within the next 2 to 3 years. Um the way borrowing bylaws work is you pass ... you need approval from the Municipal Board before Council can give second and third reading to this bylaw for us to proceed to the next steps of tendering so that we can get actual prices for this project. So by the time we actually have to borrow and issue the debenture, we expect to be able to apply additional levies that we've collected to bring down that \$12.563. Uh we also or as Nathan mentioned from Water Services Board, there's an opportunity for us to still put applications in for additional funding so we will be pursuing that so that will bring down that amount even further uh and there's additional reserves that we'll be collecting so by the time we fully have to borrow, we can't give you the exact number but it will be much lower than \$12.563. We just need this step of the process approved so that we can go to tender and get actual costs for this project. **NOTE: The point is not how large the loan will be, the question is who should have to pay for it. The CAO is trying to skirt the main issue.** So in regards to the L.I., because this plant is um kind of rated for a 20-year plan for capacity, it's hard to go for an L.I. (Local Improvement) for a type of project like this. What we fully intend to do is when the capacity is available uh for Dugald and Oakbank, when there's older parts of Oakbank that for instance that want to connect, that would be an L.I. that we would put on those residents directly for them to pay for that piping in front of their street and their houses to be able to connect. But for a \$29.4 million dollar uh project, it's not feasible to go through an L.I. option. So uh we can't give you an exact number that we will borrow but it...we can guarantee it will be less than \$12.563. **NOTE: Again avoiding the main issue which is those that don't benefit being required to pay for the project.** **Mayor Therrien** – Does that answer your question, there, Kev. **Kevin** – Um, not really. Uh part of it. Um just wondering, like so I understand that you'll be able to do everything you can to try and reduce the cost and the borrowing and interest um but has the math been done on you know what, like what would the rate be and the implication be if you took all the people out of the equation who will...who will not ever have access to this, right, like what is that number? Have you done that math? **CAO Draper** – Well like I said, it's difficult to look at a 20-year capacity and you know, we don't know who those developers will be in 10 to 15 years. We know the developers that have been approved or are able to develop now **NOTE: And the funds for those developers have already been calculated and approved by Council and the public was involved.** but it wouldn't be feasible to put an LI rate on REUs to pay for this amount. **NOTE: But why not require the developers who will be benefitting pay for the water treatment plant? She is avoiding that possibility.** **Kevin** – Ok, so I mean I don't, I don't know how many lots the developers are looking at now, when you say not feasible, like, what are we talking about in terms of numbers here? **CAO Draper** – Well the Plant Capacity is at 5200 REUs right now so if you take that times the current rate of \$8500 an REU, we come up with

\$44,200,000 so that more than pays for the project over the 20 year span but it's not immediate money that we can use towards the project.

Kevin – Right, no, I understand that. I guess my question is still that will be, you know, you'll be collecting that revenue gradually over 20 years as long as you actually get that demand. Um that's, that's an estimate, an assumption right now so we don't really know so over that time, can you not, I mean it sounds like you would apply more to it but if you account for that, and you would account for you know, let's say raising the rates you know on the developers who are actually turning a profit on this, you know, again what do those numbers look like. Why, why could that you know not work for the funding of this instead of taxing all the people who have no access whatsoever and it's based on property value, it's not based on household occupancy or how much you actually use. Like I just don't understand the correlation there. It just doesn't make sense and it just doesn't seem fair, especially to someone who has to pay, you know, \$50,000. Only pro-rate the life span of a well and septic system. We're spending thousands of dollars per year pro-rated over the life span of those systems. **Mayor Therrien** – One more minute uh there Kev. **Kevin** – I think that's all I have to say. I hope the math is, is being done on those various options um and for now I didn't see that so I have to oppose it right now. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, Kevin. Uh Richard. **Richard Kuffner** – My name is Richard Kuffner. I do have a comment. Uh every house in Oakbank is going to be charged extra on their tax under what the building is worth, a levy on their, on their home and the same thing with the rural people, I'll be paying extra taxes on my home but we have not only the home like everyone in Oakbank has got a home but we have also land and we're having to pay extra taxes on our land that no one else is paying for. We're paying for what our home is worth like everyone else in the whole municipality but on top of that, we're having to pay extra taxes on our land. Every farmer, everyone that owns land in the Municipality of Springfield is being penalized. It's not an equitable way to handle this, this approach the way youse are doing it. Uh you're penalizing the farmer with land and it's going to subsidize the ones here in town. Uh it's, it's just not fair and equitable. That's my comment. **Mayor Therrien** – Um uh another one. We'll go to on line uh here. Uh Pam. Pam, you're on line uh, you've got a question or do you want close off his. Ok um uh Pat. **NOTE: Someone in the audience is saying something I can't hear.** No, Pat's talking right now. **Pat Burbank, Sunnyside** – Pat Burbank, Sunnyside, Manitoba. Um I'd just like to register my opposition to this borrowing bylaw and give away my 9 minutes and 30 seconds to Mr. Mackie who I think has a lot to say and will say it in a much better way than I ever would. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Uh Mr. Mackie, you've got 10 minutes. **Gordon Mackie** – Mr. Mayor, through you, uh I have a few things to say and I have a few copies of my remarks uh which are not everything that I need to say, that is, I'm going to distribute these so you have a keepsake of my important remarks **Mayor Therrien** – Excuse me, Mr. Mackie. **Gordon Mackie** – If you will allow me to say that uh several of the speakers tonight have raised really critical issues. We have to be very pleased at them with the technical input. The first couple of rows here you know and I'm confident that they have inspired a somewhat greater than the political process has inspired, I must say. I'm appearing tonight in opposition to the proposed bylaw because the bylaw is financially inequitable. It's unfair and sets the.... **Mayor Therrien** – **interrupting** Sir, just uh address the uh myself. **Gordon Mackie** – Oh, I can see you clearly here uh on the monitor but you want me to turn my back to these people. **Mayor Therrien** – Just address me and they can hear you, yes. **Gordon Mackie** – Well, will all our guests on line be able to hear me if I am not.... **Mayor Therrien** – Yes. **Gordon Mackie** – Okay. I've tried reading your lips, you speak pretty quietly and I'm quite deaf and it hasn't worked but I guess you're not even going to attempt that. We have a conflict between town and country. You are exacerbating it with this bylaw when people have made heartfelt pleas and I think you have heard them but you have discounted what they have had to say. I think this is wrong. Now my purpose tonight is to persuade you that centuries, centuries of reasoning about fair taxation can and should be applied in Springfield. It's not something new, it's something that's been going on for a while. The real question is, who pays and that is the subject of the bylaw and as a question, it must be solved first. This is terribly important things that hinge on this. Mr. Rossol is here again tonight. He, he...he just wants to build houses. Canada needs houses...oh I turned away from you. Canada needs houses. Uh we've got to settle a whole bunch of precedent questions before we can give Mr. Rossol an answer that he can really work on. Who will pay? Why should they pay? I'll read one paragraph. I insist on the equitable distribution of services and the equitable incidence of taxation. I consider that the logical principle to apply is that all those who may use such public goods as piped water should pay for them. Those who may not use those public goods should not suffer from the compulsive power of the state to make them pay. The statement that people who are not presently on town water will be compelled eventually to sign up seems to forget that 10 or 12 years ago we went through this once before. Those people have wells. You know, you never miss the water until the well goes dry but maybe they're going to have to face that before they're prepared to pay the hookup costs. Using the power of the state to make them pay is a thing that destabilizes the society to a small extent but to the extent that people really don't like it. They don't want to do that. And I refer to centuries of the study of taxation. There's no doubt that taxation applied in ways that populations will not support have led to almost every revolution in history. **DON'T DO THIS.** I don't think that people in Springfield are going to suddenly be marching with muskets on their shoulders. I am saying that you destabilize society and we have a fairly cohesive society here. I'll tell you what I mean by equity. What am I talking about. **Equity is the similar treatment of similarly situated individuals.** So if you have an ocean liner and a rowboat, it is wrong and useless to treat the people in the rowboat the same way you treat the people in the ocean liner. Similarly situated individuals. We have a very clear physical separation between Dugald, Oakbank, Anola a little bit, and the rest of the rural area. Similarly situated individuals live in those areas which are urbanized. Other similarly situated individuals live in those areas which are rural. You have to treat the two groups similarly for equity to result. Are you with me? Ok. Alright. So that's what we're aiming for. Equity is a goal. And some people will note that those things which appear in general parentheses in what I've written are not things I'm going to use up your time with. But you might find them amusing to read nevertheless. Public goods are goods and services provided by a public agency or a private agency directed by a public agency are paid for by some or all of the members of the public, are distributed very narrowly channels such as water mains Narrow channels, that was a pun. Nobody laughed, I know. Well, thank you, ok. That, every result when those with access to the water are those who pay for it. Municipal roads are often brought up. Municipal roads are a pure public good produced by the municipality and everyone may use them. Water services are not a pure public good because not everyone may use them. If you want to charge me for the water that people in Oakbank and Dugald use, I'm going to organize my neighbours and we're going to go around and we're going to be knocking on the doors. Hi. I'm Gord. I'm going to use your toilet now because I paid for the water. Hi, I'm still Gord, I like to have a show...I like a long shower, shave. I'm going to be in your bathroom from 7 to 8 in the morning. Are you signaling one minute? Never mind that some time has been ceded to me on the basis of a precedent? **Mayor Therrien** – No. Ten minutes, Sir. **Gordon Mackie** – **laughing** Uh here we go, folks. I'm glad that I cel...I'm glad that I distributed some of these. You can see what I'm up against. I'm proposing limited ...I'm proposing that the people who pay for the water are the people that get to use it and I'm proposing that we form a um limited uh whatever you call it, a limited sorry a local improvement district. The Municipal Act provides 3 opportunities for doing this which we have somehow overlooked or ignored because we want to tax everybody. We don't need to become a town, that's sometime in the future. A local urban district carries with it some other responsibilities which probably derogate from the authority of the Council and which you

probably don't want to deal with so we need a limited (laughing)...I'm doing it again. So we need um a Local Improvement District which will limit the supply of water and name those people who are taxed. This is not a very hard thing to do. All you have to do is make a list. You can include the Development Plan or not include the Development Plan. The Municipal Act is entirely silent on this. I think that you should really tax the people that are going to be using this water and that's not me, it's not my neighbours on Poplar, we paid, we paid more than half of the \$29 million that's need to build the Water Treatment Plant because we paid for all those grants, we paid for all those reserves, all those public funds were paid for by everybody. We have paid our share already. Your autocracy has reached new heights. I play by the rules... **Mayor Therrien** –Thank you, Sir. **Gordon Mackie** – I informed your CAO of my desire, let her have a copy of an early draft, I registered, I even appeared on the Website today, now you want to rush me....**Mayor Therrien** –I'm not rushing anything. You've got 10 minutes like everybody else.Mark? **Councillor Miller** – Thank you, Mr. Mayor. And thank you, Mr. Mackie, for your presentation. One of the first rules of Parliamentary procedure is when a member provides and yields time to another one, that should be granted. I'm not sure why you're not doing that but I guess we play by different rules. Secondly, Mr. Mackie, you talk about pure public good and you know that you have a lot to do with that because you know, the Manitoba Hydro Electric Board uh it's the people who use Hydro that pay for it, it's not those who don't have it. Same with natural gas. We don't have natural gas, I don't pay for it. Um you could go on and on and on about these kinds of things. Health care, all of us could use it so it's a general public good. We all accept paying for health care, that's acceptable but in this instance and this is the trouble and I'll publicly say, that's the trouble. I support the development, absolutely, but I'm concerned why ten thousand people in our Municipality will have to potentially pay for piped water in Dugald and Oakbank so again, that's a service directed to specific residences. You know, two-thirds of the Municipality will have to subsidize those people on piped water so that's my concern. In my ward and just happen to be in it, I have not heard virtually anyone suggest that they support this initiative because as someone else had said earlier, we paid 15, 20, 25, 30, 50 thousand Kevin said dollars to fund our own septic and I would be in support of you. Why don't we do a borrowing bylaw to subsidize and support the new development in the rural areas for their wells and for their septic systems. The same principle applies. And if we go forward with that, that's equity and I think that's what you're talking about. There seems to be ...and it's not dividing the community, there's different amenities in each characteristic of our community, right, from rural to urban. So I want to thank you for ...to try and explain what equity actually means, it doesn't mean everyone subsidizing everyone for everything because if it does, those people in the rural communities would be also compensated for their wells and for their septic systems going forward. **Mayor Therrien** –Thank you, Mark. **NOTE: A female voice can be heard talking in the background.**No, no, just have a seat, Mr. Mackie. No. He made a comment and that's ...that's it. There's other, there's other people that can talk. **Councillor Miller** – And...and you disregard uh Miss Burbank yielding her time, I don't understand why he can't respond to my question. **Mayor Therrien** –The uh our bylaw says 10 minutes each so is there anybody else, this is...we're at our uh **NOTE: The Procedural Bylaw does state "The Chair of the public hearing has the right to limit the time taken by any person to 10 minutes....", however there is no mention of whether another individual can cede their time to the speaker to extend their time. Personally I don't see any problem with that but obviously the Mayor does.** **Unidentified Female** – Can I make an appointment? **Mayor Therrien** –Uh Pam. Are you on line there. **Pam** – Ya, I'm here. **Mayor Therrien** –Alright, we'll take Pam and Timothy and then we could uh um proceed uh to our uh First Reading. **NOTE: If there are still people wanting to contribute to the conversation, the Mayor should allow them to do so but 13.2 of the Procedural Bylaw now states "The Chair of the Public Hearing may decline to hear further presentations." So sacrifice democracy for expediency.... that's the rule in the RM of Springfield.**Go ahead, Pam. **Pam** –Ok so I moved to the country, I moved here 4 years ago rural, I paid ... pay way more taxes here than I did in the City comparable house etc. Um I moved to rural, I knew there was going to be limited services, I expected that. I didn't expect garbage pickup. I take my stuff down to the dump myself. That's fair. I expected that. Kevin, you make me want to cry when you talk about \$50,000. cause I though when I paid \$3,500. for upgrades for my waterthis summer, that was a lot. So where do I put in my request for reimbursement then if I'm going to have to pay for others, then to be fair which means equitable which is what we're talking about, then what do I do, just keep paying and subsidizing others? That doesn't seem fair at all. And then I have some questions. Was there only one open house on this? **Mayor Therrien** –I'm sorry, I didn't hear that. **Pam** – Was there only one open house on this? **Mayor Therrien** –No, there's uh how many have we had uh 2, 3... **CAO Draper** – There was two Open Houses for the general public and an Open House uh just for directly related residents around the well site so ...so three were held. **Pam** – Because I wasn't able to make either of them. I would think that part of the reason and this is so controversial is there wasn't enough stakeholder consultation in the first place, um and then there's information that keeps coming up about what we would be able to have uh is there a well required for the Rec Center now if it doesn't go forward and what we would lose. But I haven't seen this in writing as a comprehensive plan yet. Like is there a business case for this somewhere that I haven't seen in writing on the Website or something that sets out all of the scenarios, what the cost of each is, how those costs are distributed through the years, who's going to pay, what the...what we'll lose because of it, what the risks are, is that anywhere? **Mayor Therrien** –Are you referring to the Rec Center, M'am? **Pam** – No, I'm referring to the whole borrowing bylaw for the Water Treatment Plant. **Mayor Therrien** –Uh yes uh it's on line, is it not uh Colleen? **Pam** – Where? **NOTE: That is a problem because the Website is not very user friendly, I find. How to find specific things is not always apparent.****Mayor Therrien** –Our Website. **CAO Draper** – So there is a page for the Dugald/Oakbank Water System project so any documentation and any presentations that were made at the Open Houses are all attached to that, the borrowing bylaw is there, all the financial details uh.... **Pam** – Are you talking about what's attached to the...this agenda tonight? **CAO Draper** – No. There's another project page on the Website that has all that information loaded for the Dugald/Oakbank Water System Project. **Pam** – But it compares scenarios, do nothing, do the treatment plant, do the treatment plant with an LI, do the treatment plant with you know other funds, tax...other sources of taxes. Like you've calculated \$8,500. a year for developers but in 5 years and you're doing this over 20 years, in 5 years that \$8,500. Is \$10,000. In 20 it's like 15, 20 thousand dollars ... Why aren't those escalating costs, I just used 3% for inflation but it could be much more, why isn't that included in your calculation? **CAO Draper** – Well, those fees are set out of the Fees and Charges bylaw...so we just, we know what the current fee is, it just increased \$500. from 2023 to 2024 and as the Manager of Water & Waste said, uh we're internally looking at those fees and uh any raises would come to Council for approval through a bylaw. **Pam** – But you probably can assume a basic rate of increase over 20 years. Like that's guaranteed. So that's a whole other source of funding that doesn't need to be paid by current people. Right? Like guaranteed I don't think I've seen prices go down here for quite a long time. **Mayor Therrien** –Our Finance Officer will talk to that a little bit more. Amram? **Amram Bangura** – Hello Pam. This is Amram Bangura, Finance Manager here and that is already taken account of. We are talking about a 20-year period amortizing that debenture. It's a long-term payer but we used figures that we are certain of which is the \$8,500 that is currently being paid and how that will increase in the not-too-distant future, say 2, 3, 4, 5 years from now. Twenty years from now, what that amount would be, it's not yet certain what it would be but it's considered. It's not a question of whether the investment would pay for itself, it's a question of having the project move forward and paying that up-front cost, the construction

phase of it and then borrowing for the portion of it that the RM needs to borrow for and making the annual debenture payments so it's the annual debenture payments that we're debating on. How do we make that annual debenture payment? Looking at the \$12.5 million that is proposed to be borrowed right now and it's been said over and over, at the time of actually doing this borrowing, we may not be borrowing \$12.5 million, we may be borrowing less than that because there are cash inflows from developers that are even expected to flow to the RM that would be directed towards that debenture amount that we propose to borrow which will bring it down. I want to also just mention a few points here because I've heard the argument in terms of taxes being fair and who pays for what. I believe the RM of Springfield is a community. I mean, the RM generates funds by general levy and taxes on property owners. The rate that is used to levy this tax is an average rate and what that means, because it is an average rate, not everybody's going to pay the same absolute dollar amounts. Not only that, we have different property owners, there are those who are considered residential, there are those who are considered farm and commercial. You'll find that if you are, your property is considered as a farm, your portion at this moment is 26%, the residential is 45 up to your value of your property, the commercial is 65 so looking at it and trying to say every taxes should be fair, how would it be fair when even the portioned assessment is not the same for everybody depending on the property you own and in terms of also the services, everybody has different needs in the community. Those in rural areas, yes, will have different needs from those in the open towns but this is all because we belong to a community, it's Springfield Municipality and we cannot say we all pay the same absolute dollar amounts for all the services provided that are different services to different people depending on their location. So we've presented all the figures. By the time the debenture is actually structured, the amount that we'll borrow will be significantly lower than that 12.5 million and as development kicks in with their developments that are already approved, what that does for the RM also, it increases the tax base. Currently in 2023 based on 2023 at this minute, the average home has a 1.6 million tax base. As new lots are developed, that base increases. What does that base mean? The base is what you use to generate your mill rate, it's the dealer minute so if your dealer minute so increases significantly above the expenditure ... the expenditure is what the RM wants to spend so to provide services or to invest in the capital expenditures, what it does, it will lower that mill rate. So as new lots are developed, our tax base increases, the 0.686 mill rate that is shown right now, it's going to decrease for that. The debenture amount will decrease. Now not only that, when we do at large, it gives us the opportunity also for the, the, the future residents of the RM to also pay towards this debenture as opposed to doing it um through an LID because with an LID, once it's locked in, it is those that were there at the time of the project. They are the ones that will be paying for that LID. So the current ratepayers, I don't think it's a fair question to say um we should, we should all be paying the same because nobody's paying the same, I just wanted to make that clear. Nobody is paying the same amount in terms of absolute dollars figures. It's an average mill rate and it depends where you fall, you could be above the mill rate, you could be below the mill rate, or at the mill rate, what you pay but then there will be future residents coming in to the RM who would also be paying towards this debenture. So what we are showing you right now that if you have, if you, if you, if you, if you have a \$100,000 home and it is apportioned at this maybe \$30. it could be less than that. I just wanted to make that point clear that and that the tax system is not a fair system, it never was and I don't think it ever will be in the progressive tax system that Canada has. And nobody pays the same amount in terms of taxes. And no two individuals will have the same needs within the community. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, Amram. Now Richard, Richard, Richard. Ok uh Pam uh your time is up. We've got one more to go and that'll be Timothy. **Pam** – Uh no, he spoke for 5 minutes of my time. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, go ahead, uh for a few more minutes. **NOTE: Bravo to our ratepayers. The mayor is trying to stifle the public but our citizens are not letting him get away with that.** **Pam** – That's right. So increasing the tax base, I worked for the City of Winnipeg for 36 years. The theory that you increase and have a bigger tax base and that you suddenly get ahead and you have more money, that never happens. Never. What happens is, you have more traffic, your roads need more repair, you have more people, they want more services, your Rec Centre now isn't big enough, it never works out that you oh, just build some more properties, allow development and we'll be laughing. That never happens. The City of Winnipeg has been trying to figure that out as well as they can since the beginning of time and it's still not equitable. So I don't understand why Springfield in not looking to other areas of expertise like Winnipeg's policies and improving on financial uh support for different services. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, is that it, Pam? **Pam** – And one other thing I'd like to say is, sure we're a community but if you ride the bus then there's a fee, you pay for the bus. If you drive a car, you pay your insurance and you pay for your gas so there's not...like why isn't it considered equitable and fair to have people who are benefitting from the service pay for it. There's nothing wrong with that. That's fair too. We're still a community. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok M'am. Uh I gave you the extra few minutes there. Uh Tim. **Tangi Bell** - Hi. Can you hear me? **Mayor Therrien** – Yes. **Tangi Bell** – It's Tangi Bell from Springfield. Thank you, Pam for speaking to that myth that more development lowers taxes. I won't spend time on that. Um I'd like to say that I'm against this proposed general borrowing bylaw number 24-01. This bylaw is not equitable. It makes residents that have no access to this municipal service pay. Through grant funding, we residents now pay again. The increase in traffic that will occur from Council's planned increase in population to support this proposal has not been considered fully. Our transportation system is flawed and correcting it is not a quick and easy cheap fix. We are told that Reverse Osmosis treats 20% of the water, this is contrary to the principles of water conservation especially with the challenges that we will and are seeing from climate change. I'd like to bring up the 2005 large scale model that tested the aquifer system's sustainability and found that in 2025, just a few months away, water consumption from normal population growth exceeded the sustainable draw on the aquifer system. Industry and agriculture were not inputs in that model. That model is peer reviewed. It is not questionable. It is for 2025 and our sustainability will be reached on that aquifer system. And this is followed up in 2007 by the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission's Report on the Pembina Valley Co-operative Supplemental Groundwater Supply. The Commission recommended that no further development take place until a Watershed Plan was developed and a sustainable withdraw limit be defined for our region. And that's not a curse. I request that this Council reject Bylaw 24-01 at their post and that they petition the Government to follow the Commission's recommendations. We should have a...no uh no more development on our system until such time. And now if this Council decides to proceed with this By-law, I request that it create a Local Improvement District with Dugald and Oakbank residents who will benefit from this infrastructure and the developers, they pay for this Water Treatment Plant supply expansion project. This is a far more equitable and logical taxation route for this project. I particularly stress and urge my Councillor, Melinda Warren, to reject and vote against this bylaw as proposed. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, Mrs. Bell. Uh we have one more uh um is that you uh again, Georgina. You've got yourself on mute. **Georgina Mustard** – Sorry, we're like refugees at this. Um I'd just like to say that um I am in opposition um for this bylaw. Um I'd like to echo what um Gord has said and um just a quick little story here. I used to um own a cabin in Oakburn which I think was like the RM of Shoal Lake. And there was ten of us that had a well that had failed and the RM was not going to be footing the bill to help any of us out so the ten of us paid to put in a new well and the ten of us paid every year until that well was paid for. So um and not for the rest of residents of the municipality, just the ones that were affected by that. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you. What's that? Oh. Darryl. I think this will be the last one we I'm satisfied we've heard all the opposition and all

the uh **Councillor Miller** – Point of order, Mr. Mayor. You can't determine if there's other people that want to speak, we will let them speak. **Mayor Therrien** – Well, the bylaw allows me to do that. **Councillor Miller** – You want to cut off people again? You want to close the door. I don't think that's appropriate. There's other councillors here that may want to hear them speak as well. **Mayor Therrien** – Well the policy says I can do that and Darryl will speak now **NOTE: Councillor Miller tries to protest and Mayor Therrien says "just relax, relax Mark. Darryl's going to go now. Just relax. Go ahead, Darryl."** **Darryl Speer** – Ok my first comment is that I wonder why the presentation we saw at the beginning wasn't available for us to have in the audience to review. I think that would be of benefit and I'd like to have a copy. Is...can we have copies of it available for people? **Mayor Therrien** – If uh.... **CAO Draper interrupting** – It's being posted on the agenda, yep. **Darryl Speer** – The presentation is... was made by ...? **CAO Draper interrupting** – It will be posted on the agenda. **Darryl Speer** – Ok. Uh we heard tonight that the gravel zone aquifers uh are unconfined and not acceptable as a water source. And I would like to say that's not the case. Uh we have proof just recently that uh a company called Sky Blue Water uh was approved to remove I think it was 4 million liters of water per year from their wells drilled by Friesen Drillers, 2 of them. And uh so my point is that there is water available and I think we should be investigating that part of it. As far as I'm concerned, um I'm asking Council to step back from this proposal and uh consider that we're spending \$29.4 million plus 20% as was mentioned earlier plus interest charges un for a Water Treatment Plant in Oakbank and to draw water exclusively from 4 wells on the Poplar Road just east of Dugald. As they've said here, it does not meet drinking water standards so we've been up to this point of actually blending water from our Heatherdale wells in the gravel zone to make this water suitable so I have a problem with going ahead with the cost of an RO system, a green sand system working in tandem, plus the by-product that comes out uh that has to be retained and then approved for release into the Winnipeg, the Lake Winnipeg watershed. Sol'm requesting tonight, Council, that a water study be done of our gravel zone aquifers because there's one directly north of Oakbank, there's others, to determine the best source of water for quality and quantity. To me, we need people who are specialized in water supply that are independent of both the drilling company and Associated Engineering. I firmly believe this because we need to have a goal of sustainable water for residents in the old area of Oakbank and the proposed areas that we cannot service as yet. To me the older areas should have a prior claim on this water before any new developments proceed. So basically first in line and I think we could avoid a complicated treatment uh the extensive piping as proposed in this uh uh project and the expense of upgrades and the expense of maintenance, as a result, and I think looking at it that way, we could give everyone a benefit and be negligible in our levies on the people outside of Oakbank and Dugald. Thank you. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, Mr. Speer. Uh John we'll go to you next. On line. **Jill Ell** – Hello, this is Jill Ell speaking. I'm today going to approach this from a completely different angle than from what I've heard everyone else on the file say. Um I very much align myself with Val Ralke's comments earlier uh but that's not really what I'm prepared to bring to the table. Um I've lived in the RM for 35 years um over 35 years, 32 of them on a rural property in Anola and the last 3 here in Oakbank. Uh when I lived in Anola, I was completely responsible for my own well and my septic uh and in town here I have town water. Uh when this new treatment plant comes in, I will be paying taxes towards it and I... as it goes forward. Uh I don't mind paying taxes towards it, I wouldn't have minded when I was living in Anola paying taxes towards it. When I was in Anola, I was responsible for my well but I also didn't have an uh a quarterly water bill that I had to pay. When I'm living in Oakbank, I do have a quarterly water bill that I have to pay and if you add those up over the years, it would cost me just as much as for the well one. So I really think that this is coming from a different perspective. I already have town water. I'm not going to gain anything from getting this bill put through but I will gain in the long run because there's going to be a personal care home coming up in here in the next few years and perhaps that will help my family and myself as we age. There's also a group home coming into the area and that will also need water. And my son has a disability and I'm hoping one day that maybe he'll be there. And so I don't look at the RM the way everyone else does as country or town, I look at it as a community, a place where my friends live, my family lives, I know individuals who are intending when they get older to get into the establishment in Dugald. I know that they're one day going to be putting a pool in there if they're able to do that and that's something that I would have loved to have access to when my children were younger and it's something I would like to have access to in this community as a senior. And I really think there's a lot more to be considering here, than I live in the country or I live in town. We're a community and people move around and **NOTE: My goodness, we are doing first reading on a borrowing by-law for the new seniors' residence in Dugald and now we are having to listen to all this stuff about herself. But considering her friends, maybe I am not surprised. To a large extent, this is a bedroom community. Many work in the City of Winnipeg or Beausejour or even Steinbach and when they get home, they have supper and it is very near to bedtime when they finish.** people have families, and families use different services. The Rec Centre is going to be a huge advantage, not to the town of Dugald and Oakbank or Anola but to the entire community and I think we have to think about things a little bit differently. I apologize for raising this now at this point when we're talking about opposition. I did not realize that there were this many individuals who were against this or I would have spoken much earlier in the process. So thank you for taking the time to hear what I have to say today and I really hope this does go through. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you very much uh M'am. And I guess Ted, you're the last. Go ahead, Ted, you're next. Ted, you're up now. **NOTE: The Mayor is sounding a little irritable.** **Ted Cole** – You have no idea. My name is Ted Cole. You have no idea what you have done to me uh by having to take this cap off but anyhow. Regardless. Sir, I question how you and Melinda and Glen can vote on items for us. The reason is, the three of you altogether voted against the people. You voted us out of this building. You took our rights and our freedoms away from us. I question how can you vote and make decisions for us, against us. **Mayor Therrien** – Ted, this has nothing to do with the Water Treatment Plant. This is a personal matter.... **NOTE: Why didn't he interrupt Ms. Ell when she was ranting on about personal matters?** **Ted Cole** – Oh, it does. **Mayor Therrien** – ... uh between uh yourself and uh myself. So uh... **Ted Cole** – Heck no. **Mayor Therrien** – Have you got something to say as opposed to the water treatment plant. **Ted Cole** – No, I just did. I am opposed to this Water Treatment Plant (ok) and you have bullied people here. That placard that you have out by that door, the entrance to this building, I mean to this Chamber. **Mayor Therrien** – What placard? **Ted Cole** – There's a we'll call it a piece of paper with words on it. You have broken the rules, your own rules, right there, harassment, bullying, intimidation, threatening, you have broken your own rules. **Mayor Therrien** – Alright, Ted. Thanks very much. **Ted Cole** – Boy, am I glad you thanked me. Very irritating and I'm leaving, oh, don't worry, I'm leaving, you don't have to rush me out. Thank you, Sir. You're an embarrassment. **Mayor Therrien** – Ok, Karen was next. And the person on line, that'll be our last one **there**. **Karen Lalonde** – Karen Lalonde, I live in Oakbank. Um I can understand where the people are coming from, I lived rurally and uh because I can't... don't want to look after a big property anymore, we're now in Oakbank and I totally understand where everybody is coming from. And I could see the lagoon being on a community wide basis because everyone's going to have their sewage dumped into the lagoon when it's expanded so that, that's one thing but I think the water is a different story. And another thing. I think a lot of people are wondering, you know, we're looking at just one, one piece of the puzzle. So we know how much this one may cost but we don't know how much the extension of the lagoon is going to cost, we really don't know what the borrowing for the Rec Center is going to cost, and it goes on and on. And until we have that full picture of

what our taxes are going to look like, I don't think you know we can make any decisions on just this little piece and that little piece later on cause once it's done, it's done. And I had a question actually in my submission that I sent everybody. I just wondered who had made the decision to build 200 houses a year. It was right in the literature that you were looking on, on...ya, and that you were looking at 200 homes per year and that's why we needed this size of a facility and da dadut da da. **Mayor Therrien** – I, I, I've heard of that number but I've never seen anythingokm'am... **Karen Lalonde** –Thank you. **Amram Bangura** – So it's the Finance Manager here again. The plans that ... were proposing to build houses of the capacity of 5,200 REUs and we're looking at a 20 year time so we decided when we're looking at that and analyzing the figures, can this investment pay for itself. So we looked at it, that ok we can **assume** 5,200 REUs over 20 years is an average of 200 REUs per year, that's where the 200 came from so it does not necessarily mean that you will exactly have 200 REUs developed in a given year, it may be less in a year or more in a year so it's over the 20 year term, that's the capacity that we have so we just spread the capacity out over this period, that period, yes. **Karen Lalonde** –I also, I just wondered too, you know, we're looking at development and thinking it's a great thing which it is but at the same time, are we taking into consideration the extra Fire Department uh equipment that we may need, uh you know, the cost of Public Works uh staff and equipment, as uh Public Works stated, it's going to be \$35,000. ... 35% more uh right now for equipment because of inflation, like all these costs and we're taking just one thing and looking at it and I think we need to see the big picture before we go ahead and, and just uh welcome people here that we can't really afford to uh live here anymore, we're going to have to move somewhere else so anyway that's my...that's my beef.**Mayor Therrien** –Thank you, Mrs. Lalonde. Uh Zu..Zuzanne uh you're, you're next there M'am. (quietly off mike) So it's Zuzanne. M'am...Zuzanne uh Hanell. M'am, are you there? We'll give her a few seconds **there**. Is there anybody else in the audience that would like to talk in regards to uh in opposition? John. **NOTE: Again, faintly in the background there is conversation going on that can't clearly be heard.** Oh. **John Wright** – My name is John Wright and uh I live in Springfield. Uh I did have uh quite a bit to say but uh a lot of it was answered. Uh I guess one of the things um I am opposed to borrowing bylaw that will tax myself as a rural owner for building of a Water Treatment Plant. That was how I was going to start off. Uh there was a couple of things that I, I just, I keep hearing water, water, water. I go, I come to all the Council meetings, I've been coming to them, Glen will tell you, for the last 10 years and uh I keep uh and this year it's been water, water, water. Sio water, north water, south water, uh Sky Blue water, we actually gave away a million liters of pristine, it was pristine water, that was the word he used and all of a sudden we need to treat water and yet we've got water so that is why I oppose it. And one other thing was I'm not a big mathematician but he said that in 10 years, the last 10 years we increased the population by 2,000 people and we expect to, in 20 years, to increase the population by 21,000 people. Wow. So I just don't quite understand that number either so thank you. That's all I had to say. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you John. Uh ok **at this upoint**uh here I don't see anybody else on line with their hands up or anybody else in the uh in the audience uh Doraine? **Doraine** – Uh, can I just ask if any other serious option was considered by Council to the current funding of the project? **Mayor Therrien** – The funding uh portion uh **there**? **Doraine** – Yes, like did you look at alternatives, I, I've heard a couple of people mention and are suggesting that Council consider other options. **Mayor Therrien** –I think that's been answered already **there**M'am uh uh LIDs, Lis or um that portion there. So that's, that's been answered uh **there**essentially it's...we looked at that and it wasn't uh uh a course that we wanted to go by, we want to go with uh uh dispersing across uh the RM. **Doraine** – Uh... **Mayor Therrien** –Go ahead, M'am. **Doraine** –I'll just let Mark ask uh.... **Councillor Miller** – Uh point of order, Mr. Mayor, you made a statement that Council wasn't supportive to any other initiative, that's not a true statement because I would have been supportive to an LID so please, I would take back your words. You don't represent what I had said. **Doraine** –So thank you. **Mayor Therrien** –Thank you, M'am. Uh anybody else on line? No Kevin's already, we've already spoke to Kevin. What's that? We've already spoken to her? Well, where is she? Where, where is she? I don't see her on the screen. Oh. Is there anybody that hasn't spoken that has new information? You've already spoken, M'am. Uh Janet. To what? Oh so you've got the opposition. Ok. **Janet Nysten** – Thank you for giving me this opportunity. Two quick things. One is in your by-law, you're making reference to reserve funds that has not been approved by Council so I'm suggesting to you that you either put in the Gas Tax Bylaw soon to be called another name or amend your Gas Tax Bylaw to the proper name because it doesn't exist. The other thing I was going to say just for local improvements, I'm not sure if you've discussed that there were three ways of funding them, one is by assessment, one is by frontage, and one is by per property or any combination of so perhaps you might consider a blending proposal of all...per property but also for those in the local improvement area that are going to benefit that you do that by assessment and have a combination of, and I oppose this project as presented. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, M'am. **CAO Draper** – I guess my only comment to Council would be uh just name change to a reserve does not invalidate the Reserve, uh the monies are spent the same way so we're not spending the monies differently than what the Reserve allows us to. **Mayor Therrien** –Ok. This uh Laina, that should be our last one. Laina, whenever you're ready. **Laina Penner** – Hello. I'm Laina Penner. I live in Springfield and I've lived here for thirty, forty years as well. Uh I'm actually opposed to this project the way it stands now and I have a couple of concerns. I do live in a rural area and I don't think it's fair that um that people would have to pay and they have zero benefit from it. Uh the second thing is I don't feel that the developer would be paying their fair share of the cost. I think that it's been pretty clear over recent decades that development often costs um government more money than they bring in. This is just the tip of the iceberg. As we've said, it's not only the water, it's going to be the sewer, it's going to be roads, it's going to have to be twinning the 15 highway, it's going to be schools, it's going to be more spaces for personal care homes um you know so I think, as somebody said, we don't have the true cost and, but I think we know from, from history that development costs communities more money than they bring in and uh again I think this needs to be looked at very carefully um and soon to be done with this full sense of urgency because um you know because there's a bit of funding right now, I mean the ongoing costs are just going to be so huge compared to the money that we're putting in at this point. The second thing, I just wanted to clarify, um I think you had compared uh the development costs uh in Springfield compared to other municipalities and somebody had said the charge would be \$8500 uh for each uh single family unit in Springfield which was similar to other municipalities in Manitoba um you know near Winnipeg. But I'm wondering, do we also add additional development charges to the developer, like if they're also charged for things like parks, the roads um you know for the sewage or does the \$8500. supposed to cover all of that? **Mayor Therrien** –Uh they also pay for uh sewer M'am, I think it's \$5,500 as well, would that be right. **CAO Draper** – Well, ya, we talk about what the developer must pay towards water, it's \$8500 per REU. They also pay \$5500 towards a sewer levy per REU. Uh in total developers pay close to \$20,000 per lot when they develop and they're also responsible for installing all of their own infrastructure, roads, sidewalks, water lines, sewer lines, all of that development that takes place on the developer's property is paid by the developer. **Laina Penner** –Ya, and how about ongoing costs for things like road, or sidewalks or schools or any...is there any ongoing costs they're responsible for or is that on us, the taxpayer? **CAO Draper** –Just the initial payment for installing that is for the developer and then taxes, once the houses are built in that development, the taxes help contribute to the upkeep of that and, and uh with the road and snow removal and grass cutting. **Laina Penner** –Right, ya and I mean we know already we're having trouble maintaining the roads that we already have and I'm not sure how we can maintain a larger network of roads um you know and costs are going

up all the time. And then the other question I had, is that \$8500 flat rate or is it like a proportion of the cost of the house cause again some of these houses are going to cost \$600,000. um you know and maybe have 4 bathrooms, um is that reasonable or should the people with larger houses be paying more. **CAO Draper** – Ummm so maybe Phil can answer that. **Phil Pawluk** – So hi. Um it's Phil, Manager of Water and Waste. So the \$8500 is based on a single family home REU. Um a condo would be point 75, a town house would be point 75, so the number of lots, so over two lots you get one and a half, um if it ends up being commercial, those properties are assigned 1.0 REU on the base of the lot and when a building is built on there, that building and its use is then calculated to figure out its occupancy and type and then the REUs are applied proportionally to that so for example, um if you were to build a restaurant on a commercial lot, depending on the number of seats and all that, um I can give you an example the Peppercorn Restaurant in town, they're public knowledge, uh theirs would be .4 REUs. So they pay sewer only and they pay 8.4 so it would all be proportional to what is being developed on those commercial lots. **Laina Penner** – Right but like a 1300 square foot... **Phil Pawluk** – Those would all be combined into that 5200. **Laina Penner** – Ok. Ya, thank you for clarifying but, but just to answer, just to speak to what I actually asked about, a 1300 sq. ft. house would pay the same as a 4,000 sq. ft. house for that **CAO Draper** – **interrupting** Well, I think for initial hookup, yes, \$8500 for one REU but then based on the use of the water, they pay per cubic meter. So that's when the size of your house and the amount of water being used is user paid. **Laina Penner** – But it doesn't account for these huge up-front cost, I mean, this, this, basically we're building a whole, a new water plant for these extra hundreds of people that are moving to Oakbank so it's like a huge uh one-off cost because of this development. Ya, so I think in this case um because we are talking about primarily doing this really for this new development, I do think the developers should be expected to pay a higher, higher cost of this and you know, just the way it is now, I can't support it and I do oppose this bill. Thanks so much. **Mayor Therrien** – Thank you, M'am. Um that was her, **there**, alright. Um then I don't see any hands. Have you already spoke, ... I know you already spoke but was it for oppose or is it for information. Ok then I, I think we've already got uh your input on that then M'am. Is there anybody else uh for uh, actually I'll put it out there to, uh anybody with uh new information to add in support or opposition, uh now is your time before we close uh the Hearing portion. I don't see anything on line and I don't see anybody uh in the audience, so **at this point here**, I'll put it out to Council um **there**, can I have a show of hands, all those in favour of closing the uh Public Hearing uh for borrowing bylaw 24-01. So a show of hands, those in support of uh closing. **Councillor Miller** – Point of Order, Mr. Mayor. Uh we also had submissions of uh people on line, you know, by uh I think uh Phil you had a number who were in favour of the project as well as those opposed and I think there was also a petition, do we have the numbers of those who are opposed or in favour? **Phil Pawluk** – Uh it didn't come through me, it would be the Planning Department ... **CAO Draper** – So anything we've received before the Public Hearing um has been attached to the Agenda for public information and all were forwarded to Council um within the last 3 days so those are all there. **NOTE: I went to the Agenda page and counted. The Results: 4 letters of objection. 4 letters of support plus one letter from the developer, RDI, in support. Petition Against with 45 signatures and Petition For with 26 signatures. Because those not aware of this item on the agenda until the Friday before the meeting, the period to obtain signatures was limited. Those petitioning for would have had advance notice that it was coming up but may not have realized they would need to produce a petition in support.** I have not counted them. Uh they were just continually coming in for and against so we will count them when we have to provide any, any information to the Province and the Municipal Board. **Mayor Therrien** – Any other questions from uh Council? Melinda? **Councillor Warren** – I'm not sure if it's a question. Is anybody making a statement after? **Mayor Therrien** – Ya, but once we close it, then we can make our statements from Council. **Councillor Warren** – Ok, I'll wait. **Mayor Therrien** – So if I can get a show of hands from uh Council, all those in favour of closing the Public Hearing portion on the borrowing by-law uh 24-01, all those in support with uh a show of hands? That'll be unanimous. Then **at this point here** uh uh we could put it out to uh members of Council for their uh comments, in no particular order, whoever wants to go first and I'll be last. **NOTE: Yes, the Mayor does like to have the last word and that is the only one he recognizes.** Go ahead, uh Mark. **NOTE: In the background can be heard a cacophony of voices raised in seeming anger.** (laughing) Uh somebody go ahead. **Councillor Miller** – Andy, do you want to go? **Mayor Therrien** – Go ahead, uh Mark. **CAO Draper** – Or...or Andy. **Councillor Kuczynski** – I will go first. **Mayor Therrien** – Sure. **Councillor Kuczynski** – I'm going to volunteer for that, my statement. (laughter in background from I believe Councillor Warren.) First of all, I want to say, I get a lot of e-mails, a lot of phone calls, uh a lot of messages from residents, from this Municipality. I really appreciate all of them. There was some for it, some against it and you know, I think thanks for them that you know, I can make ... represent them in this Municipality. First of all, uh I want to say that and ask, did we ever reach, because I represent a very large commercial part of our Municipality, did we ever reach as a Council to uh commercial um area and, and ...in my uh Ward 2? Because we're going to tax these people and they have no input. How can we do that to them, to these businesses that they're never going to receive any benefits from this Water Treatment Plant. **NOTE: And their percentage of tax is the largest.** **CAO Draper** – Well, we followed the requirements, put out public notices for all of our Open Houses, we sent e-mail blasts, we put it on our website, we put it in the paper, **NOTE: I don't believe too many businesses in the Industrial Park would be receiving The Clipper.** um that's all I would say we've done but I can't go door to door making sure people are aware of it so... **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok, so I'm going to speak on behalf of these businesses and I'm going to say that they shouldn't pay for the development of this Water Treatment Plant because they're not going to get any benefits. Secondly, I'm in a very bad position because I represent 2/3 of Oakbank and the majority of people from Oakbank who called me, they said they were for it because they're going to get direct benefit from somebody else going to pay for that. So I have here map, a water map, that half of Oakbank, it's not on the water uh piped to them and half of Oakbank is on well water. Now I never heard from any of our meetings anything, all these people who are on the piped water that they have water going to their houses, why are they not hooking up to the...to this main water pipe because a lot of people who said they were for it, for this Water Treatment Plant, they have access to this water right now. Why are they not hooking up? **NOTE: The cost of hookup is too high, and while on well water, all they pay for is electricity to bring the water to their taps. They don't pay a monthly charge for water. That is the answer. It would cost them more to hook up until, and in the event, that their well fails. When that happens, they are obliged to hook up according to a resolution of Council.** **CAO Draper** – I would uh I'll answer and then if Phil wants to add more but at this point, if they're on a well and the water line runs in front of their house, until their well fails, they're not required to hook up. **Councillor Kuczynski** – Ok, so that's one point. Um some, some people, some people could hook up because they were calling me and they said they wanted, they want to be on the piped water so they have the ability to hook up and they don't, probably because of the cost that is going to be associated with the hooking up to the ... to this water line. **CAO Draper** – Well, I mean, there was an option to hook up when the REU was \$5200 and I'm sure more people are kicking themselves they didn't take you know action to do it then because now the REUs are increasing so I can't say for sure how many houses that are in that situation that front on to a water line that aren't hooking up but maybe Phil...5 possibly that ... 5 to 10 that aren't hooked up that could. **Councillor Kuczynski** – So now I'm going to say, are these people aware that once we get the Water Treatment Plant, and we're going to provide water to Oakbank, now they're going to have associated costs with it because we have uh By-law No. 13-11 that if their well fails, they

have to hook up to the ...they're not going to be able to, to drill another well. **NOTE: I seem to recall in a recent meeting that the CAO stated people's wells had failed but they had drilled new wells because Oakbank at present does not have the capacity to provide water to them so the RM did not enforce their by-law.** So that's maybe going to be costing them, maybe Phil could answer, what would be the cost for these people? **CAO Draper** –You'd have to come up here, sorry. **Phil Pawluk** –**NOTE: Phil did not come up to the microphone and was talking in the background but I can't hear clearly what he is saying and a lot of silence.** That's a tough one, not a question ... property plus the REU ... so the REU is \$10,000. **NOTE: From here on, he is at the mike.** Ya, so there's opportunity lost, there comes a time, so again for not taking advantage of situations today, doing it logically, practical to build a plant that won't come on line for 3 years and tie everything in, you lose opportunity that existed back then. So as I was saying at Palmtree Bay and Beach Bay I believe is an area, there was an opportunity to bring in water mains, there was capacity in the system, the REU was \$5200 at the time, and people elected not to do it. And now it will cost them probably double. **Councillor Kuczynski** –So now when we're going to have this Water Treatment Plant and we want to actually put around the water lines to all the residences in Oakbank, when are we going to give them warning that that's what's happening, that's what you're going to be forced to do if you have to, you have to hook up to the water. How many people will be able to afford it? Some people are probably going to say "sorry, I can't". What are we going to do with these people? They are long time residents and we are going to force them to go on the piped water and they can't afford it. **Phil Pawluk** –Well, I guess that will then depend on the circumstances in the ground, if you have end up with a situation where the groundwater becomes contaminated and the Province says you need to do it, similar to what they did in Anola in 2007 with failed wells and septic fields contaminating each other, the Province may step in and say you've got to do it. We, we can't predict the future, all we're doing is Utility's, we're trying to encourage people to make good decisions, we're trying to find funding from all sorts of places, we had a 20-year vision to connect all of Oakbank through grant funding, cost sharing initiatives, and that and it's a slow process but it's been put on hold so previous Councils had that vision to do this and take everybody off wells. I guess you could look at the alternative is that the water plant is not desired, you could run the situation where you can put in 2,000 more wells in this short area and have everybody on a well competing against each other and draining the aquifer ???so the Utility is trying to do its best job to encourage everybody to get on the system, find economical solutions, and avoid getting into situations where you've got half the town on water and half the town on wells and everybody is being disagreeable to each other. **Councillor Kuczynski** – So if that's what's happening, are we already applying for the grants to help these residents that are going to be hooked up to the water. Right now we have to think about it because 2 years from now or 3 years from now, 5 years from now, we are going to have to do it, something, because those wells, like somebody suggested, they're going to be failing, then you know, we have to apply for grants now so we receive them maybe 3, 4 or 5 years from now. **Phil Pawluk** –Right and I agree with you on that, Councillor Kuczynski, we had a plan, a high level vision to bring in lines off the existing lines and we had cost estimates done internally at the time but there has to be uh a will on the public in those areas to want to connect and push Council to move it forward and Council regardless of who is on Council at the time it becomes a higher level project that Council may want to see those things move forward slowly over time and in a logical session so yes, when Manitoba Water Services Board puts out its annual funding program, the ask us to list all our projects and they ask us to list them in priority and the values and that, then we always have the water, the sewer, the base infrastructure, the lagoon and the water plant and the main lines as priorities and we put these secondary lines into the un-served areas, those are always at the bottom because there hasn't been any group or effort or individuals that have come and said, our street wants water. Let's find a way to make it happen. So the Utility is certainly happy to work with everybody and solve these problems and make grant applications but we're not here to try to force it on people but we want to collaboratively work with everybody to get off the well system. **Councillor Kuczynski** – So next thing I would say if that's what we are planning to do, we have to do a survey with those people and ask them if they want to be on it or not, if they want to use existing wells. **NOTE: And find some way to do the project without requiring people that will not benefit from it from paying into the project. It should be a LID (Local Improvement District).** **Phil Pawluk** – Right and ... **Councillor Kuczynski** –And we have to have those numbers to, to move forward, you know, that's just a suggestion. **CAO Draper** – I would just add there are areas that do want it but there have not been grants available to apply for so the worse thing that could happen is that a grant becomes available and we don't have the capacity to even offer it to those residents that do want it on those streets. So without capacity, what are we applying for grants for. **NOTE: I am shocked at CAO Draper who full well knows that the Poplar Wells are going to become the sole source of water for Oakbank in the very near future. That has been the plan for some time now because the Heatherdale wells are under siege from gravel businesses who are encroaching on the Heatherdale wells.** **Councillor Kuczynski** – And there is the reason why people don't want to hook up because they want a grant, they want subsidies and they want subsidies right now from the rural residential to pay for, for their services, at least with the Water Treatment Plant. That's the first step. And then they get subsidies from, from the government for, for you know for hook-ups and everything else so these people, if it would be everything cost um uh allowable for them, they would do it gladly probably and you know, next month because you know, having water and you don't have to worry about your wells or anything else is going to fail and somebody looking after you. And it's you know like people are looking for the you know very comfortable life and that's what's happening. But anyway, and my final statement, I'm going to say that I'm in a very hard position because I represent like the majority of Oakbank and I represent like on the same moment people in the country. No matter what decision I'm going to make, I'm going to be a loser. **NOTE: I see his point but my point is, one does not run for Council to be popular. One runs to try their very best to represent their fellow men to the best of their ability. I believe Councillor Kuczynski is a person that will do that to his utmost regardless. I believe the business owners in the Industrial Park and his rural residents are going to be more than pleased at the side he seems to represent, that of solid, well-thought decision making.** Some, some part of this...my ward are not going to like me. So my decision is going to be very important and I guess Councillor Fuhl is probably in the same position so no matter what we do, we are not going to be likeable for some group. So I want to thank everybody for listening to me and I would state that I'm against that development. I want development, we want to grow this community, just who's going to be paying for it, that's the question we want to ask. Thank you very much. **Mayor Therrien** – Does anybody want to go next? No. Uh Glen you're going next. **Councillor Fuhl** – Yep, I'll go next. So I just want to say, I've heard everybody, the pros and the cons and I've taken it all in. Um I can tell you this though, um you know it's ...I live rurally, I have a well, but there's so much of a social and economic development gain here that there's ...again nobody mentioned about if we have a fire and a water pumper comes to our homes, you know, how is that water getting there. **NOTE: I am not entirely sure the Oakbank Firehall is on Municipal water. It is possible but I am not sure. Further, I am unsure if the Public Works Building where the Firehall is located in Anola is on Municipal water. I am somewhat doubtful. Just a point.** It comes from the Water Treatment Plant. It's not coming from another home down the street. Um the Rec Centre, it's going to be for the whole community, not just rural or urban, I like what Mrs. Ell said. We are a community and anybody that believes we're not a community, that's what's happening. We've got the rural against the urban and you've got to work together. I can tell you, I've been in business for 40 years, I supply rural

municipalities, rural municipalities and towns all across Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Northwestern Ontario. I've seen towns over the last 30 years go from 1,000 people down to 200 people, down to 100 people. I've seen the banks pull out of the towns. I can tell you, it's reality. It happens. We have to be able to grow and be a vibrant, growing economy and have people that love to live here and work and play. Thank you.

NOTE: Yes, indeed, Councillor Fuhl is busy campaigning for the next election. Springfield is not a remote rural community. It is immediately adjacent to the largest city in Manitoba and most residents of Springfield that work, work in the City of Winnipeg. The majority of our residential population do not rely on our towns and environs for employment or for that matter, entertainment. We are a bedroom community of Winnipeg. An impassioned speech but without fact and substance. And the majority of his own personal income, I would surmise, comes from his stipend as a Councillor.

Councillor Miller – Uh thank you Mr. Mayor and thank you to our staff and to the um Water Services Board representatives, to the public both for and against this initiative and those who just had inquiries, you know, this is an integral type of project. If it was wastewater, the rural and the urban centre residents would absolutely share in those costs and that's what Mr. Mackie was talking about. We have similar interests, we have similar uh infrastructure we need to share with, and that would be a different story. In this case again if this borrowing bylaw was just for the rural areas, I would assure you the people on piped water and the new development areas would oppose it because they wouldn't support the infrastructure such as wells and septic systems for the rural area. Now there are 10,000, I have to reinforce that, there's 10,000 people who aren't on piped water in our community and if those 10,000 people were given a poll, I would probably assure you they probably wouldn't be horribly receptive to paying an additional tax. You know, it's easy to tax and spend, there's no question about that, the easiest thing for government is to tax and spend and on frivolous projects, we've seen them federally, we've seen them Provincially and now potentially we're seeing them municipally so you know they're asked to come and then I agree with Councillor Kuchynski absolutely, I don't know that we've had the input from the commercial and industrial sector, I don't know that there was one person here who represented a business and they're going to be taxed higher than others and so to uh just omit them is a, is a I wouldn't call it a crime but it is unfortunate. I support what Councillor Fuhl is saying, absolutely we need to uh have the economic horse to carry the uh social cart as our new Premier has said, no question about that, it's absolutely critical but in an initiative like this where there's specific residences and people who are benefitting, um it's not equitable. This proposal is not equitable. I am absolutely probably a hundred percent supportive for a new Water Treatment Plant whether we do it now, you know, the last generation of councillors probably should have done it. It would have been a lot cheaper and maybe an opportunity but I am opposed clearly to the funding mechanism. I don't think it's fair, just or right and so on those points um I have to reinforce my position that I support development if we ...of the Water Treatment Plant if we can find a mechanism in a way to be fair and just to those receiving the water and for those who don't receive the water, uh benefits of this initiative and you are going to hear overtures by others that uh you know this is a community initiative and it's a great thing and all the rest of it, everybody is going to benefit but wasn't it Mrs. Bell and others who said there's an infrastructure deficit. Along with development comes those other costs, a new fire truck, more services, more public works, etc. etc. etc. so it's not all just roses, we're pulling taxes in, every model again and I reinforce it that the Institute of Urban Studies will show you and that person who spoke about working at the City of Winnipeg for 37 years, absolutely truthful. Just because you do another development does not garner you enough taxes to do the additional infrastructure going forward so again I don't want to be-labor the point here, I know it's getting late and I want to thank everybody. If we can only come up with a better mechanism to support this initiative, then you could uh could see my support.

Councillor Warren – There we go. I live on 10 acres out in the country. I drive these wonderful awful roads right now like everybody else with the climate change, you want to call that, we have rain, now we have snow, all in February and the same day. Um you know I don't get garbage pickup like some residents get and you know my kids went to school here. Did you know that those 3 schools are on well water. One day that well water isn't going to be there for those children. Uh the Kin Place has issues with ecoli probably once a year. They've had to get a different system in there to keep their seniors safe. I know everybody would disagree with me somewhere along the line but I have 10 acres and my property with my father next to me has...it's a 5-acre lot. I just drilled a well so I know how much that costs for that other house **NOTE: The house that was built for her daughter.** and I know how much it costs for a plumber and I know how much it costs for everything. But the reality is the Water Treatment Plant isn't, I'm hoping, and, and I thank the developers that want to come to Springfield, um and the businesses because that's what helps us all. And, and yes the farmers do it too because they pay on their land and some of those farmers, they're selling to developers now but the agricultural land that is most precious is still being farmed and thank you, Mr. Kuffner, for all of your hard work as a farmer, you know, and ideally we need this Water Treatment Plant for the Seniors Home that's coming for Dugald and the children that want to play in a pool **NOTE: A pool that is part of a senior's residence. I hope they have a good sound blocking insulation around that pool and not too much noise escapes into the residential portion of the buildings.** and seniors that need uh therapy in a pool when they get to that age and then the doctor says, hey, water is the best medicine for your joints, this isn't ... I was one of those people years ago and honest, I always said I would never come to Oakbank but my kids went from the rural schools and into Oakbank. I love Oakbank. Don't get me wrong. I love it. I love shopping at Co-op, I like going to Family Fair, I go to quite a few restaurants so it's, it's about community and I know nobody wants to hear that word someday cause we all do the whole thing, your, your urban, your country but at the end of the day we're all community. That's all I've got.

Mayor Therrien – Thank you uh very much. I will be uh the last uh councillor or Mayor to uh speak on this uh uh I took like 20 pages notes uh tonight and incorporated them into what I'm about to say here. Much of it is redundant uh **there** but to start off, I took uh uh um or we took our oath to serve the citizens of the RM and duty to them to make decisions for the best interest of them in our RM. Uh there's been very good uh summations uh by uh people who uh took time to come up uh for inquiries uh in support uh and in opposition. And so I thank you very much uh for doing that. That's how the uh process works uh everybody was courteous uh for the most part except for one individual **???** **there** but uh that's to be expected uh **there**. Um we have \$10.6 million, two large grants given uh uh for use for this project, uh good governance dictates that we should take this opportunity now. Interest rates are high but have been much higher, we were very low, 2 or 3 years ago but uh we did not have the \$10.6 million that we have now in the bank and also collecting interest. Uh this uh the water project, the uh Dugald/Oakbank uh Water Treatment uh project and the regional waste treatment facility upgrades are two critical infrastructure projects that we uh, that will define our community. Uh addressing infrastructure uh um now the deficit now is uh to, to the betterment of the RM. The existing Oakbank and Dugald Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Treatment Plant have served the RM, all the RM, well past the 20 years of their shelf life uh and are nearing their operational capacity. It needs replacing as we add, no the Rec Centre, no personal care homes, no other facilities. The decision is tough and I, for one, do not like debt **NOTE: But according to someone who knows it for fact, the Mayor has a very large personal debt load.** uh um, more of an old school uh person and now we must make the uh tough decision in number one investment in our Water Treatment Plant now or face the decision to end any and all growth and effectively remain stagnant. The borrowing by-law, we will not be starting next month on the Water Treatment Plant. Uh it will be about 2 years before we sign papers and uh in two years we continue to get uh

water capital levies so that money borrowed will in all likelihood be lower, possibly much lower. Uh the project will take 2 years to build, uh interest rates uh uh will hopefully be going down but nobody knows that. Uh the amount uh as well given that uh will be lower than the \$12.6 million and plus all the accruing interest uh in the accounts and so on uh like that. Uh the First Reading of the borrowing bylaw approved by Council allows the Utility and the Manitoba Water Services Board to continue with the detailed design, refine, optimize the design establish a firm Class A uh cost estimate that's right down to the nuts and bolts uh **thereso** we'll have a you know an accurate price. Until we have these components in place and tendered price uh for the project, the numbers are estimates and estimated high at that. Um the Water Treatment Plant has been talked about uh for many years, the planning concept for design for the past 3 years. The RM and the Utility have engaged an engineering firm and we have two highly disciplined, responsible engineers as well as um our RM financial staff and the Admin staff uh to develop a 20-year uh design plan and capital cost estimates to reflect those costs. Uhhh we have to look forward uh for what's best uh or what the best uh we can do for the RM and people that live in it now and in the future, not just for the uh the short term uh uh but for generations to come. Uh delay means our infrastructure gets older uh more unreliable, less resilient uh harder to maintain, harder to replace parts and inevitably rising costs which uh appear to be the norm for the near future. Ideally we should look at large expenditures, capital projects well apart or in a cycle, for example replacing large machinery at Public Works or Fire Departments but we are now and we have to look at what we have now. Uh we have been aware of the question brought forward as to why we do not spend our savings, our Reserves to pay for this project uh which would be fiscally imprudent uh **there**, we have uh savings already allocated for this. Um a waste lagoon will be calculated the same as the Water Treatment Plant and the amount of the cost will be lower again while we wait for the grant and use our reserves as well. Um so we have a plan in effect. Large infrastructure project improvements are complex uh from conception, planning to implementation and uh is measured in years, depending on those complexities. As an RM and Administration and Council we look uh years in advance in anticipation or our community's wants and needs. The two critical infrastructure projects as stated uh uh um and the Water Treatment Plant will define 50 years uh of the RM of Springfield's sustained growth and success. Uh 50 years uh for the uh building life and 20 years for the Water Treatment Plant which is expandable. This new Water Treatment Plant proposed to be built in Oakbank and Dugald will give the safety uh to those residents via fire hydrants uh water uh can now be brought to them, cost to each house will be that of the owner and not the taxpayers. Our schools present and new proposed schools uh uh um will get the water that needed. Uh will...we will, our elderly citizens in our personal care homes will benefit. Um I am one of those residents as well that would have to pay for uh, for the hookup uh **theresas** I've got sewer but no water so I expect a large bill to uh eventually come my way. Um so the um it will allow us to grow in population and lower taxes the more businesses, broad tax base uh more reliance solely on residential growth, greater variety of family or residential units, more uh more affordable single high density housing uh that will allow our youth to dream and progress to ownership, uh staying here as they grow uh uh um as their parents and their grandparents uh before them as well as obviously their kids which is a term that we use uh um as aging in place. Young adults can remain uh and flourish in the RM, uh transition from smaller to larger and reduce from larger to smaller uh later in life. Um we can have uh our early demographic population to remain healthy and welfare will increase, aging in place with our uh pool uh in Dugald and our Recreational Centre. These institutions are enjoyed and used by all citizens, businesses will come and jobs will be generated. Taxes will be spread over a large population and we will all benefit. Businesses, commercial and industrial growth, uh jobs grow and our youth uh gets to choose the option to remain in our uh RM. Uh our reliance on residual...on residential properties uh the taxes will be diminished as well. Use of Development Plan uh and bylaw Strategic Plan uh have guided us well and in our needs and our wants. Uh we have significant uh uh I'm sorry uh the alternative is to remain stagnant uh stay as is. Uh that is not a plan, it's simply delay and avoidance uh for no rational uh reasons. Costs of the stagnant model, population will not increase at a rate that will offset increased costs and taxes will go up and infrastructure still get older. There will be no facilities uh are...you know, excuse me **there**, I'm talking. Ok. Alright. Constant, stagnant model population will not increase at a rate that will uh offset increased costs and taxes will go up and infrastructure uh will still get older. Uh there will be no facilities, no businesses, uh and no recreational center. Uh I want to offset our reliance on residential taxes and no increased business taxes, we can do this uh with attraction, expansion of all retention of businesses to our business park. Uh old as well as new and compatible with our Developmental Plan. Steering businesses towards Smart Park research and development, uh green businesses, education uh higher education and agricultural based. Uh high density housing will have the aging-in-place component that we are steering toward. Um as a...everyone wins here. Older residential areas such as mine will pay the cost for many years before water uh gets to them. Um as a retired Mountie, I have seen firsthand far too many fire tragedies uh house fires where hydrants could have surely have given a chance uh to save lives. Uh how you put a value on uh safety of human lives. Our, our Capital Budgets will require reassessing, downgrading as the tax base will be stagnant. Uh cost to run the RM services etc. do not stop and will be a ...uh based on a stagnant population and costs will rise. Pretty near the end. **NOTE: Thank heavens. I wonder who wrote that speech for him? It in no way resembles his usual pattern of speech which is succinct.** Developers are not the enemy as some people have portrayed them as. Uh they pay heavily for the right to build and prosper here. Water levies of \$8500 and another sewer levy of \$5500. Uh the rationale to avoid looking forward, avoid making decisions to delay uh the inevitable, we have to uh proceed uh and go forward. Uh I think that uh does it. Sorry if that was a bit long. Um and I'll be the last in regards to this. Any other questions uh from Council uh or comments from Council? Then I will uh call uh the Special Meeting uh back to order. Uh can I get a show of hands **with regards** to having the meeting back uh in order. Ya, we were out of order, now we're back in order so uh show of hands, back in order. That's uh unanimous.

5. BY-LAW 24-01 – FIRST READING – Mayor Therrien - Uh the Special Meeting is uh back in order so our agenda item uh Borrowing By-law 24-01 reading, can I get a mover and a seconder **with regards** to the borrowing uh by-law. Uh Glen and uh Melinda. **CAO Draper – Be it Resolved that First Reading be given to Bylaw Number 24-01 being a bylaw of the RM of Springfield to provide for the expenditure and borrowing of funds for the construction of a new Dugald/Oakbank Water Treatment Plant and Supply Expansion Project.** **Mayor Therrien** – Those in support of uh the uh the resolution by-law, the Borrowing Bylaw 24-01, can I get a show of hands, those in support. That'll be Melinda, Glen, and uh Patrick (Warren, Fuhl, Therrien). Those opposed. That'll be Mark uh and Andy (Miller/Kuczynski). And it is therefore passed.

6. REQUEST APPROVAL FROM PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD TO INCREASE WATER UTILITY RATES - Mayor Therrien – Ok, we'll go to uh Request for Approval from the Public Utilities Board to increase uh Water Utility Rates uh **there**. Can I get a mover and a seconder on that one as well please. Melinda and Glen (Warren/Fuhl). **CAO Draper – Be it Resolved that the RM of Springfield apply to the Public Utilities Board to increase the current water utility rates from \$2.30 per cubic meter to \$3.64 cents per cubic meter.** **Mayor Therrien** – The resol...the resolution read uh **there** uh could I get a show of hands, uh those in support. That'll be Melinda, Glen and Patrick (Warren, Fuhl, Therrien). Those opposed.

That'll be Mark uh and Andy (Miller/Kuczynski). Uh unless there's any other items, I don't think I missed anything, did I? Then **at this point here** I'm prepared to uh motion to adjourn the meeting. Can I get a mover and a seconder for that as well, please. Uh Mark and Melinda (Miller/Warren). Then **at this point here** the uh Special Meeting is uh over at uh 10:15 p.m. Thank you.

7. ADJOURNMENT