In The Matter Of:

City of Doraville

State of Georgia

City Council Meeting

June 20, 2011

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Page 0

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CITY OF DORAVILLE

STATE OF GEORGIA

Transcript of the meeting held at the Doraville Civic Center, 3770 Central Avenue, Doraville, Georgia, Mayor Pro Tem Maria Alexander presiding, before Theresa Bretch, Certified Court Reporter, commencing at approximately 6:30 p.m. on Monday, June 20, 2011.

Page 2

APPEARANCES:
Doraville City Council:
Maria Alexander, Mayor Pro Tem
Councilmember Brian Bates
Councilmember Karen Pachuta
Councilmember Bob Roche
Councilmember Pam Fleming

Melissa McCain, City Clerk

Cecil G. McClendon, Jr., City Attorney
Riley McLendon, LLC
315 Washington Avenue
Marietta, GA 30060
(770) 590-5900

Page 3

P R O C E E D I N G S

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: If everyone can please stand and say the Pledge.

- - -

(Pledge of Allegiance)

- - -

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you. Call the roll, please.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Here.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Fleming?

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Here.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Pachuta?

COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Here.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Roche?

COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Here.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you. We have minutes of June 6th to approve.

COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Make a motion to approve the June 6th minutes.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Second?

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Second.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any discussion?

- - -

Page 4

(No response)

- - -

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Call the roll, please.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Yes.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Fleming?

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Yes.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Pachuta?

COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Yes.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Roche?

COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yes.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you.

We have a proclamation today for the Honorary Consul-General of Poland. Mr. Ashe, welcome.

And if you could please, Mr. Howe is going to do our presentation for us.

MR. HOWE: First of all, I would like to thank Acting Mayor Pittman for --

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Do you mean Alexander?

MR. HOWE: Freudian slip -- Acting Mayor Alexander for the privilege of presenting this proclamation declaring this week as Poland

Page 5

1 Week in Doraville. I would also like to thank
2 Poland's Honorary Consul, Mr. Lawrence Ashe, for
3 braving the rush hour traffic to be with us
4 tonight.
5 We've invited several American honorary
6 consuls to our meetings, but Mr. Ashe is the
7 first to accept, so we really appreciate it.
8 He's a very distinguished and busy attorney, and
9 we're excited to have him here tonight.
10 Mr. Ashe is a founding partner of Ashe,
11 Rafuse and Hill. He served honorably as a U.S.
12 Naval officer, and besides being an honorary
13 consul, he has been a pillar for the greater
14 Atlanta community for decades. He also happens
15 to be married to Kathy Ashe, one of the
16 brightest and sweetest state representatives in
17 our state house.
18 The Republic of Poland celebrated
19 several holidays in the month of May, including
20 Constitution Day and Victory Day. Mr. Ashe
21 couldn't be with us earlier this month, so
22 tonight we honor one of the most resilient
23 nations on the planet. Polish people and Polish
24 Americans have made indelible contributions to
25 our nation and our world.

Page 6

1 After fighting in vain for his own
2 nation's freedom, Polish Count Casimir Pulaski
3 came to America and fought and died for our own
4 independence in the Battle of Savannah. Pulaski
5 County, Georgia, is named in his honor.
6 Poles have made other significant
7 contributions to science and the arts. You may
8 have heard of Copernicus, Madam Curie and
9 Frederic Chopin. Others you may not have heard
10 of are Henryk Magnuski, a Polish-American who
11 invented the "walkie-talkie" or Casimir Zeglen,
12 a Polish-American priest who invented the
13 bulletproof vest. It may be a surprise to some,
14 but the world's first oil refinery wasn't built
15 in Pennsylvania or Texas. It was actually built
16 in the small Polish town of Jaslo by petroleum
17 pioneer Jan Lukasewicz.
18 Jozef Kosacki was another Polish
19 pioneer, inventor and officer in the Polish Army
20 during World War II. He is best known as the
21 inventor of the land mine detector, and the
22 basic design didn't change until 1995.
23 So in light of everything the nation of
24 Poland has given to the world and to our nation,
25 and as a token of our friendship and our

Page 7

1 admiration, I'd like to present this
2 proclamation to Mr. Lawrence Ashe.
3 - - -
4 (Applause)
5 - - -
6 CONSUL-GENERAL ASHE: Thank you very
7 much. I'll be brief.
8 In addition to being married for the
9 last 38 and a half years to a now 20-year-plus
10 state representative, my brother Victor was
11 Mayor of Knoxville for 16 years, so I have a
12 background in municipal politics. He also --
13 which largely explains my current position, he
14 was the American Ambassador to Poland for five-
15 and-a-third years, and he spent a lot of time
16 going around Poland. And he was the first
17 foreign ambassador that any of the Polish mayors
18 and council members had ever met who could talk
19 about garbage and potholes, and so -- and
20 municipal budgets, which I understand you're
21 deeply in now.
22 Poland's a country of roughly 40
23 million people. It is arguably the most pro
24 American country in all of eastern or western
25 Europe. When my brother was ambassador there,

Page 8

1 he was one of only three American ambassadors
2 who did not require security. He rode a bike
3 around everywhere with his kids, he walked
4 wherever he wanted to go; he did not have any
5 kind of armed security with him when he was out
6 doing his duties.
7 And polls -- the p-o-l-l-s -- reflected
8 the pro American sentiments of the Polish
9 people. If you count descendants, of course,
10 the largest Polish population of any city in the
11 world is in Chicago. It's not in Warsaw.
12 But we are interested in promoting
13 trade, we're interested in promoting tourism.
14 The dollar is still relatively strong in Poland,
15 which is a part of the good news.
16 So lots of fabulous scenery to see.
17 Warsaw was destroyed in World War II and
18 rebuilt. Cities such as Krakow were not damaged
19 at all and go back to 1200 A.D., and great
20 scenes to see.
21 I will share this of course with the
22 embassy in Washington. And if anyone ever needs
23 any information about Poland or visiting there
24 or doing business there, please don't hesitate
25 to get in touch me. Luke has my card for the

Page 9

relevant information.
I cannot -- thank goodness, I do not have authority to grant visas or passports, which saves me a whole lot of time and makes my secretary even happier.
Anyway, thank you very much. It's a great privilege to be here, and I love getting back and seeing municipal government up close and personal. Thank you.
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Thank you.
- - -
(Applause)
- - -
CONSUL-GENERAL ASHE: Good luck with the budget.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you.
Now we're up to department reports. Anything from the city attorney?
ATTORNEY McLENDON: No, ma'am.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Anything from the police department?
MAJOR ATKINSON: No.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Courts. We have the CourtWare Solutions contract, Ms. Rivera.

Page 10

MS. RIVERA: Basically, we -- obviously, CourtWare is the software program that we use to enter citation information into the system. And just several -- several modifications were recommended by the previous city attorneys, and I ask that you guys accept the modifications and we continue with the CourtWare contract.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: And do you know about how much this is average per month?
MS. RIVERA: It's going to be -- They charge us $1.75 per citation, an average of thirteen to fourteen hundred citations per months.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you.
COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: And we have the most recent version; correct?
MS. RIVERA: (Nods head)
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: And this begins July 1, so it will be the 2011-2012 budget?
MS. RIVERA: Yes.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Does Council have any questions?
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: But it's

Page 11

already included in the 2011-12 budget; correct?
MS. RIVERA: It is.
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Thank you.
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Make a motion to adopt the CourtWare Solutions agreement.
COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Second.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any discussion?
- - -
(No response)
- - -
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Call the roll, please.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Yes.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Fleming?
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Yes.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Pachuta?
COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Yes.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Roche?
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yes.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you.
MS. RIVERA: Thank you.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: And I apologize. I got a note. I skipped over public

Page 12

comments on agenda items. I apologize.
So if you would like to speak, please come up to the podium and state your name for the record and speak loudly because we're without our P.A. system tonight.
MS. NAPPO: Does it have to be on the agenda items for this portion of the public comments?
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Yes, ma'am.
Any public comments on agenda items?
- - -
(No response)
- - -
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you.
I don't think we have any reports from public works, the library or parks and rec.
City Hall, we've got two contracts, the Pitney-Bowes contract and the Xerox contract. Ms. Wilson?
MS. WILSON: Good evening, Council.
Currently the City uses the Pitney-Bowes contract for our meter readings to mail out things. Currently we've been spending about $3,900 a month, and we're going to -- I mean $3,900 a quarter, and we're going to spend

Page 13

$2,901 a quarter, and so this just renewing all our postage meters that we currently have within the City.

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: How many postage meters do we have?

MS. WILSON: We have three, and one folder insert machine at City Hall. No. Four. I'm sorry. Four with the folder insert.

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: And the savings is a result of?

MS. WILSON: $2,796 for the year.

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: I mean what's prompting the savings from the current contract?

MS. WILSON: Some departments are going to a smaller machine.

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Okay.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: And this takes effect July 1 --

MS. WILSON: Yes, ma'am.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: -- so it's already in the upcoming budget.

MS. WILSON: Yes, ma'am.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Council have any additional questions?

- - -

Page 14

(No response)

- - -

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Make a motion to approve the Pitney-Bowes contract.

COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Second.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any discussion?

- - -

(No response)

- - -

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Call the roll, please.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Yes.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Fleming?

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Yes.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Pachuta?

COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Yes.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Roche?

COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yes.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: The next is the Xerox contract.

MS. WILSON: As Council may not be aware of, we have two different contracts currently. We have one with Ikon and we have a

Page 15

Xerox contract. And as far as trying to consolidate things for the City and to save money, we looked at Ikon and we looked at Xerox, and both of them are on a statewide contract, and so we went with Xerox because they were able to give us a better of deal. And so we have a total of six machines.

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: And the annual projected savings is? I've got it on the agenda sheet as $16,000.

MS. WILSON: Yes.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Council, any questions?

- - -

(No response)

- - -

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Make a motion to approve the Xerox contract.

COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Second.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any discussion?

- - -

(No response)

- - -

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Call the

Page 16

roll, please.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Yes.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Fleming?

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Yes.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Pachuta?

COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Yes.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Roche?

COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yes.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you.

Next up is under the planning and zoning portion of departments, we have Mr. Steven Strickland, who is our stormwater director and arborist, about the Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

MR. STRICKLAND: I think our -- Mayor and Council, I think our best course of action with this right now is going to be to approve the resolution and adopt the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

It's pretty much an agreement between FEMA, GEMA and Dekalb County for the most part. That's what they are requiring from Dekalb County. The cities were included in it.

We went through it. There were a

Page 17

1 couple of -- Really, it just kind of needs to be
2 updated, some of the dates updated, some of the
3 people that are involved with it, but we can
4 actually approve it at this time.
5 The importance of it is that we need to
6 approve this to basically qualify for any
7 federal disaster relief funds.
8 And then I've spoken with Dewberry, who
9 Dekalb County contracted with, and we can submit
10 changes to them, and they will update it for us.
11 It will be kind of, you know, after the fact,
12 but they just -- some of the personnel that's
13 listed in it is of course no longer here, so
14 just wanted to try to get it updated.
15 And it's basically just a -- you know,
16 it's a disaster plan. It's kind of a worst-case
17 scenario. But FEMA and GEMA do require that we
18 have this plan in place.
19 Again, like I said, mainly between them
20 and Dekalb County, meaning that the County is --
21 you know, much larger than the cities, but.
22 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Is this done
23 on an annual basis?
24 MR. STRICKLAND: It's actually like
25 every couple of years; three/four maybe up to

Page 18

1 five years.
2 And the other thing about this was they
3 didn't redo it. It was just an update. That's
4 why they didn't look into every single aspect.
5 They just kind of verified some things and kind
6 of, you know, pushed it through.
7 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: I understand
8 the importance because the way the weather is so
9 volatile now. I mean hopefully we won't have a
10 tornado, but FEMA funds come in handy when some-
11 thing like that happens.
12 But I understand, I believe Chief King
13 and also I know Councilmember Bates had some
14 concerns that they were listed in it as having
15 attended -- I think Major Atkinson was even
16 listed -- as having attended some meeting that
17 they didn't, or it didn't occur or something.
18 MR. STRICKLAND: Either that or it was
19 like three, four, five years ago when it was
20 first -- when that plan was done, and then here
21 it is a couple years later, and like I said,
22 they're just updating it.
23 I don't know if that meeting took
24 place. But really what they're looking for is
25 just kind of key people within the city that

Page 19

1 would be, you know, notified and part of any
2 disaster relief, you know, system that they kind
3 of set up, like who would the contacts be and
4 who would sort of delegate the forces,
5 resources, you know, kind of a chain-of-command
6 kind of thing.
7 COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Not being a
8 hazmat expert, my only issue with the report as
9 it was prepared was that it identified me as
10 participating in a study, a local area planning
11 group, to review and make comment on that. I
12 have not done such a thing.
13 Aside from that, again the plan seemed
14 to be fine but I'll defer that to our police
15 department on the enforceability, practicality
16 of the proposal.
17 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: I definitely
18 understand the importance of us passing this but
19 I also understand the importance of us updating
20 the facts basically is what it is, because it
21 had the date of our zoning ordinance incorrect.
22 MR. STRICKLAND: Yeah, we got that
23 and --
24 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: The response
25 chart or whatever that chart was was incorrect.

Page 20

1 So what is Council's feeling on
2 adopting the resolution, I guess is what it is,
3 adopting the resolution contingent upon the
4 corrections being submitted to the County or to
5 Dewberry or whomever?
6 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: I assume we
7 could just pass the resolution and then direct
8 staff to ensure that all the corrected changes
9 are made.
10 MR. STRICKLAND: Yeah, I think that --
11 like I said, I think that would be our best
12 course of action just to make sure that we have
13 updated information.
14 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Is that in
15 the form of a motion?
16 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: I'll make that
17 in the form of a motion.
18 I make a motion that we adopt the
19 Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, the
20 resolution approving and adopting it, and then
21 also have staff work with City Hall in getting
22 the updated information -- updated factual
23 information regarding staff.
24 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Do I get a
25 second?

Page 21

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Second.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any further discussion?
- - -
(No response)
- - -
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Yes.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Fleming?
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Yes.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Pachuta?
COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Yes.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Roche?
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yes.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Than you.
Tree Permit Ordinance, Mr. Strickland.
MR. STRICKLAND: It seems like the more questions we have, the more questions that come up. We're currently working on that.
But at this time, we're going to ask to remove this item from the agenda, not for a -- not set for a later date but actually remove it. And once we sort of bang this ordinance out, get some input and feedback and have it the way we want it, addressing all the questions that have

Page 22

come up, we'll actually have the ordinance as we, you know, want or are going to present it to you, and then we'll put it back on the agenda at that time.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Do we require a motion since he's the submitter and he's removing it?
ATTORNEY McLENDON: No.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you.
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Thank you.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: The first item under old business is the second reading of the Sunday Sales referendum regarding retail sales of alcohol. This is just to put the item on the November ballot so the citizens can vote yes or no, and in turn, should they vote yes, it changes our ordinance to read in accordance with the state law.
Any discussion?
- - -
(No response)
- - -
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Do I get a motion?
COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: I make a motion

Page 23

to approve the ordinance allowing Doraville voters to vote in November on the issue of Sunday alcohol sales.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Second?
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Second.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any discussion?
- - -
(No response)
- - -
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Call the roll, please.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Yes.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Fleming?
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Yes.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Pachuta?
COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Yes.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Roche?
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yes.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you.
The next item is Mr. Bates, Bid Opening Procedures.
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Thank you, ma'am.
At the May 2nd meeting, we adopted or

Page 24

had the first reading regarding a change in the policy to set a bid opening date, public opening following the Georgia Open Meetings law, Georgia Open Meetings Act.
This would allow the Clerk and department head to open bids outside of a Council meeting, make a report to Council along with the recommendation from the department head.
So I'll make a motion to adopt the Bid Opening Procedures Ordinance.
COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Second.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any discussion?
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yeah. There's no provision in here for any kind of electronic record keeping. So with that and a couple of reasons, like I said, I can't support this at this time. I think the government needs to be as open as possible.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any further comments?
- - -
(No response)
- - -

Page 25

1 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Call the
2 roll.
3 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?
4 COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Yes.
5 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Fleming?
6 COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: No.
7 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Pachuta?
8 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Yes.
9 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Roche?
10 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: No.
11 CLERK McCAIN: Mayor?
12 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Yes.
13 The next item is from the city
14 attorney, Mr. McLendon, the adoption of the
15 International Property Maintenance Code.
16 ATTORNEY McLENDON: And again, this is
17 the second reading.
18 I think we've discussed the fact that
19 the Property Maintenance Code is something that
20 the Department of Community Affairs has
21 promulgated as a permissive ordinance in
22 Georgia. It standardizes issues of property
23 maintenance such as upkeep of properties,
24 equipment maintenance, and it really formalizes
25 those rules that allow code enforcement to move

Page 26

1 forward in a consistent manner across the state.
2 I've provided a copy of the
3 International Property Maintenance Code.
4 Hopefully, everyone could read it.
5 This will put us in a situation where
6 our ordinances are up to date and consistent.
7 What we have done is the existing
8 property maintenance code of the city, we've
9 moved that section. I haven't eliminated it
10 because I don't want to eliminate something
11 until we have a full analysis of what it is that
12 we're taking out.
13 But ultimately the new article that we
14 would insert the International Property
15 Maintenance Code as the relevant code for the
16 city, we would retain the old items in a new
17 Article 3.
18 And what I would suggest is going
19 through Article 3. And this is something I
20 would initiate so we can go through and cull
21 that out for items that are inconsistent,
22 outdated, and bring that down to just the bare
23 necessities.
24 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Do you see any
25 conflicts between the two?

Page 27

1 ATTORNEY McLENDON: I did not see any
2 conflicts. I reviewed it for conflicts. They
3 are cumulative. So I think you could use either
4 one, and probably I would suggest we'd probably
5 want to use the one promulgated by the DCI.
6 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: I guess my
7 question and my concern would be the
8 availability of this to people. If I'm a home
9 owner and I want to find out what the law is, I
10 have to go and buy the book; right?
11 ATTORNEY McLENDON: Uh-huh. It is a
12 copyrighted book, and they're serious about the
13 copyright.
14 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: How much is the
15 book?
16 ATTORNEY McLENDON: I believe it's
17 about $25.00.
18 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: So we'd have to -
19 - It'd be cheaper to just get the ticket.
20 ATTORNEY McLENDON: What we did is we -
21 - Well, it depends. When you're involved in
22 something international property maintenance, a
23 property maintenance issue, that can become a
24 very, very substantial violation and much more
25 than that, dependent upon, you know, the circum-

Page 28

1 stances you're dealing with.
2 But it does require in the ordinance
3 that one be maintained with the Clerk's office
4 as well as community development. I also
5 thought probably it was a good idea to have one
6 at the library as well available for the
7 citizens, but it is a copyrighted document.
8 COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Well, if this
9 is a document that we are going to approve, if
10 this is going to be a document that we are going
11 to approve into our ordinances, then the entire
12 International Property Maintenance Code needs to
13 be included with our ordinance.
14 ATTORNEY McLENDON: You could -- I mean
15 I understand that.
16 It could not be included in our
17 ordinance because that would be a violation of
18 the copyright.
19 It is included by reference and
20 incorporated by reference, which is a legal --
21 it's sufficient legally especially if one is
22 maintained in public locations.
23 You know, the alternative is not to
24 adopt it.
25 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Could you tell us

Page 29

the name of some cities that have adopted it?
ATTORNEY McLENDON: I can tell you that the property maintenance code is in place in Sandy Springs, John's Creek, Milton, I believe Dunwoody and --
CLERK McCAIN: Flowery Branch.
ATTORNEY McLENDON: -- Flowery Branch.
So again, it is something that the State has basically given its approval to by allowing it to be a permissive code. So I think you would find it is widely adopted throughout the state.
COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: And I guess with my conversations with you earlier, one of the main reasons to adopt this would be making it easier to clean up very severe properties.
ATTORNEY McLENDON: Yes.
One of the issues identified in our code was we do not have a process to come in and basically condemn a property that would be unfit for human habitation, that would have mechanical problems which would make it unsafe for individuals, like a furnace that was about to, you know, potentially burn down the structure.
And in our code as it exists, we have

Page 30

basically a process which is similar to a nuisance code, which is you come in and you cite somebody. In 10 days, you come to court and you both have a hearing about whether it meets the criteria of allowing it to -- to basically revoke the occupancy of the property.
This is a process that allows for a summary process on that. Upon determination of the director that the property is unfit for human habitation -- and there are several bases including infestation, the struc-tural integrity -- it allows it to be placarded immediately that says this cannot be occupied until these issues are resolved.
I can tell you that is a process that comes -- Frankly, it's a very important process. It's not something you use lightly. But I think it's a tool that is important to be able to have available in the event you have structure that are creating dangerous situations for people.
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: There's a set of objective criteria that the director needs to follow in order to determine whether or not that facility is unfit for habitation.
ATTORNEY McLENDON: Absolutely.

Page 31

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: So it's not subjective. There are criteria that have to be met in order for them to make that determi-nation.
ATTORNEY McLENDON: Uh-huh.
COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: And then the first appeal is to Mayor and Council or to the court?
ATTORNEY McLENDON: The appeal through this comes through the Mayor and Council --
COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: And then if they don't like our decision, then they can appeal that to the court.
ATTORNEY McLENDON: That was one of the things we substituted: the Mayor and Council for the board of appeals. So any appeals of a decision, for instance, if a property was placarded, any decision would come as an appeal to the Mayor and Council.
Now, there will be citations under this that would go into the municipal court just like any other citation you have under your current property maintenance code, and that would go through a criminal process.
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: I am much in

Page 32

favor of a property maintenance code --
ATTORNEY McLENDON: Uh-huh.
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: -- but I am not in favor of hiding behind a code that's not transparent to our residents, to our business people, to ourselves.
And yes, though there may be criteria which we have to follow, even that criteria is not available and would not be available online, so I cannot support this.
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: I like the idea of standardizing everything. I like the idea in general. I wish it was a lot more open and a lot more available online, but you have to take the good with the bad sometimes so I believe I will support this.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: I would like for the Clerk if she could to check with the librarian -- she's got a procedure that I think that we can buy books for our library and they don't enter into the Dekalb County circula-tion -- because I would like to see about getting perhaps some additional copies and have them at our library, and I'm not sure how she does that. I don't know if she just keeps them

Page 33

in the reference section behind her desk or what she does.
But if you could find that out for me, I would like to have some additional copies at our library also in addition to the ones that are in the ordinance.
CLERK McCAIN: And for City property --
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Correct.
CLERK McCAIN: -- not Dekalb.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: For our citizens to use.
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: I'd like to see a copy too.
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: But even --
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: If they come and read, that's --
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: But even in this code, we're now stating that, okay, well, section such-and-such, it's not going to be that; it's going to be whatever is in here. So I have a problem with that also.
ATTORNEY McLENDON: I'm not sure I'm following that.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: There are like our fines and fees, and there are things

Page 34

that I believe the State in its adoption even has caveats that say, in our state, this is what the law is. There are exceptions to it, and we can keep a copy of the exceptions or a copy of the --
ATTORNEY McLENDON: Right. What you would have is this document. You would have the State of Georgia amendments, which are incorporated. And then in our ordinance which would be adopting this, it also states the substitutions we've made as well.
For instance, one is on the fines, and it just says as according to the fines allowable by City of Doraville, basically.
So you know, I certainly understand. And you know this document is utilized widely, but they are very serious about the copyright.
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: I have a question. This may be more for the Clerk.
If we adopt it and it goes on Municode and it references the International Property Code, would there be a link from Municode to --
CLERK McCAIN: No.
ATTORNEY McLENDON: And I can say I've found it online but I would not recommend we put

Page 35

it online. People who have that online, that would be a very, very questionable step.
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: The International Property Code people , do they have it online?
ATTORNEY McLENDON: You know, they have their Web site and you can just go and order it.
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: But is the code on their Web site?
ATTORNEY McLENDON: The code itself is not. You go in and you can order it for $25.00. I went and got our copies at the Georgia Tech Engineering Book Store downtown. They have them.
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Thank you.
ATTORNEY McLENDON: Uh-huh.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any further discussion from Council?
- - -
(No response)
- - -
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Do I have a motion?
COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: I make a motion that we adopt the International Property Maintenance Code.

Page 36

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Do I have a second?
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Second.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any further discussion?
- - -
(No response)
- - -
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Call the roll, please.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Yes.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Fleming?
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: No.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Pachuta?
COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Yes.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Roche?
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yes.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you.
The next item under old business is the second reading of the purchasing agent ordinance, Ms. McCain.
CLERK McCAIN: Thank you, Mayor.
As you may recall, on June 6th, I had brought before the Council an ordinance change

Page 37

1 request to place the City Treasurer and the
2 purchasing agent in the hands of the finance
3 department.
4 After some discussion, we have come
5 back with this document leaving the treasury
6 duties in the City Clerk's office with the Clerk
7 having the ability to designate purchasing
8 agents as needed in the city.
9 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: And I think
10 that's a good move, because there is a concept
11 called separation of duties in accounting, and
12 this contributes to that also.
13 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any further
14 discussion, Council?
15 - - -
16 (No response)
17 - - -
18 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Do I have a
19 motion?
20 COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Make a motion to
21 adopt the ordinance identifying the City
22 Treasurer, purchasing agent duties.
23 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Second.
24 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any
25 discussion?

Page 38

1 - - -
2 (No response)
3 - - -
4 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Call the
5 roll, please.
6 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?
7 COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Yes.
8 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Fleming?
9 COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Yes.
10 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Pachuta?
11 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Yes.
12 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Roche?
13 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yes.
14 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you.
15 Before we get into the budget review,
16 would anyone like a break or we're good to keep
17 going or --? Okay.
18 Before we get into the budget review,
19 Council had discussed about making the life
20 insurance optional for the employees.
21 I confirmed with Ms. Wilson yesterday
22 that these budget figures include that life
23 insurance being optional.
24 Is that correct?
25 MS. WILSON: Yes, ma'am, that's

Page 39

1 correct.
2 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: So we need an
3 official motion to make that so, if Council so
4 desires.
5 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: So moved.
6 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you.
7 Second?
8 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Second.
9 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any
10 discussion?
11 - - -
12 (No response)
13 - - -
14 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Call the
15 roll, please.
16 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?
17 COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Yes.
18 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Fleming?
19 COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Yes.
20 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Pachuta?
21 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Yes.
22 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Roche?
23 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yes. Thank you.
24 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you.
25 Okay. Did everyone get a handout if

Page 40

1 you wanted one? We printed out some copies.
2 CLERK McCAIN: They were on the chair
3 when you walked in with the agenda sheet.
4 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you.
5 As discussed previously, the Mayor is
6 tasked with presenting a budget proposal. And
7 with Ms. Wilson's help and every single depart-
8 ment head and employees of the City, I've got
9 one to present tonight.
10 I had a meeting with the department
11 heads last Tuesday, I believe it was. And I was
12 very frank with them and told them the state of
13 the revenues of the City and where we were as
14 far as being -- you know, getting into our cash
15 reserves to make sure people get paychecks.
16 They all really sharpened their pencils
17 and came back with proposed cuts, with proposed
18 difference in operations, and that is what you
19 see before you.
20 The projected revenues are about 9.7,
21 almost 9.8 million. This is based on our
22 analysis of a 9.0 millage rate based on the tax
23 digest information proposed by Dekalb County and
24 also analysis of our revenue streams based on
25 year-to-date actuals.

Page 41

The projected 911 fees are $150,000. That is basically tracking on what the actuals are now. The police department as you can see has done the most to help out by cutting drastically their department.

Basically what this entails is repurposing, if you will, the jail to only be a Doraville city jail. We will not be accepting prisoners from outside cities any longer. That is going to result in a loss of income of 200,000 or so dollars and it's also going to result in personnel adjustments on jail staff.

The police department also eliminated two patrol cars from their budget as well as just really slashing every single line item they could possibly slash.

The budget does include PTO for the anticipated personnel adjustments; however, it has been decreased by the salary, the benefits and the workmen's comp figures.

Another thing to consider when we're looking at these departments. And you see that there is a large increase in the -- decrease in the Mayor's budget. Last year the Mayor's budget had a line item that was liability

Page 42

insurance. That line item has been removed from the Mayor's budget and has been propagated through the various departments based on the number of employees those departments have. So I believe that was about a $165,000 impact to the police department, a cost that was out of their control based on how we now divvy up that expense.

The E-911 has also been reduced. Again this is also going to be some personnel adjustments. I have concerns about both of these adjustments; number one, for safety of our personnel; number two, I really do not want us to have any 911 calls put on hold. We are going to be adjusting personnel in that department.

The 455-1000 number will be an issue. Some have suggested that we make that an auto-answer. I'm really not in favor of that, but we may have to, because the 911 calls are the most important part of those dispatchers' responsibilities.

Animal control. He really did not have an increase even though it looks so. I think that was an adjustment, again, in the liability insurance being spread over and possibly an

Page 43

adjustment in his retirement.

One of the things that concerns me about animal control is, in my opinion, based on being on a task force in Dekalb County, our truck. Also, our holding facility is not within state compliance. Furthermore, I was educated that it is a state law that was effective last July 1 that he is supposed to be scanning all animals before taking them to Dekalb County. So those three issues need to be rectified, and, unfortunately, they're not in this budget.

I believe the cap, the fiberglass cap to make his truck state-compliant was about $14,000 if I'm correct. That is not in this budget.

The Quality of Life budget, again, they did not go up. In fact, the police department reduced their training budget, and the $492.23 difference is because last year their retirement was not budgeted in their own department.

Parks, Ramon Mosely has been doing a fantastic job coming back with not only cost-saving ideas but also revenue-stream ideas. He heard the residents about raising the fees at the pool. I believe Ms. Fleming said he's going

Page 44

to start that July 1.

He has some ideas on cost savings at the pool as far as the lifeguard situation. He also is doing a better job of scheduling his part-time employees, managing time and counselors at summer camp. Instead of renting a bus to take the children to the zoo for 600-and-something dollars, he rented two vans for $94.00 apiece.

He's really taken a lot of initiative and doing a great job, so please thank him when you see him. So he had cut $30,000, and plus $200,000 in there was for the Halpern Park capital improvements.

The recreation and arena, there were some increases in that. Again it's because of the liability insurance being spread around. I believe our new park director's salary is in that category, so there was a slight reduction from Ms. Stephens's salary to the new director, who I believe is starting next Monday.

The pool. Again, that was Ramon believing that he has the ability to get a better pool company to manage next year at lesser dollars.

Page 45

The court costs. Again, the court did not really get an increase. They actually lowered their budget by like $97,000. Again, it's the liability insurance being added into their budget.

However, in reviewing the pass-through to others, the courts is difficult. Every time a ticket is handled through the municipal court, there are state-mandated -- I believe there are 17 of them -- fines that are added onto every ticket, be it speeding or whatever, not city ordinances but state ordinances, state laws, and so the court clerk has to transfer those moneys from our fine bucket to the state fine bucket.

Well, those moneys are included in her budget, so it makes her budget look like -- It's very overstated. Those aren't moneys that she spends; those are moneys she has to transfer to the state.

So in reviewing those and sort of comparing them to actuals, I actually added in another hundred thousand dollars for that payment to others, so it makes -- it makes it look like that her budget did not go up. It did

Page 46

not, actually. It went down by I think it was like $97,000.

The library, they took out their capital improvement request for the ADA bathroom. I asked that Mr. Pierce, our building inspector, go down there and work with Ms. Henry on making sure that the ADA bathroom that we have is currently accessible to employees and to patrons of the library, because she said she had an issue with clearance based on the security gate. So she took out the $62,000 for the bathroom.

And she also is losing a full-time employee. We have an employee retiring, and she is not replacing him. Instead, she is going to manage with her part-time help.

Under the legal department, hopefully our litigation will go down, and we have dropped that $21,000.

General administration is the City Hall budget. I believe we recognized some savings in salary there because our current Clerk is salary and our previous Clerk received overtime. But again, it's the passing along of the liability insurance that sort of makes the numbers askew.

Page 47

The Mayor's budget. Again, basically the only reason it went down was because of the liability insurance being moved. I did put the I.T. contract of $94,000 -- $94,5000 -- under my budget so when the departments were cutting their technical services and their outside services they didn't have to worry about they were cutting their money out for the I.T. services. It's all under the Mayor's budget.

The governing body, I believe -- Is that Council only or --

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: It is.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: That's Council only.

Council has decided to pay for all their health benefits, and there are two Council members that currently are getting reduced salaries.

Buildings and plants is a category we did not see on our previous budgets. We're switching over to the state-required GASB accounting now, so all of our buildings that we have for rent are under this one heading -- buildings and plants. That also includes the boxing club, which we actually get income on,

Page 48

but we are still responsible for the maintenance of it. So that went down a slight bit.

The finance department is Ms. Wilson and her assistant. We were able to lower some costs in there and do some adjustments on some outside services.

Planning and zoning is Mr. Cooley, and Mr. Pierce and Ms. Biggers. Basically, we hired Mr. Cooley, he just came on board, and there was a salary adjustment in that department for the budget.

Public works is Mr. Pittman and his crew. The majority of that $177,000 was for attrition of employees from last budget. He lost three employees and he did not replace those. There were some additional cost savings because he suggested working lesser hours during the winters months when they were somewhat slower.

Street lights is a bone of contention with me even though the city attorney disagrees with me. In 1982, I believe it was, when Dekalb County and, unfortunately, Rockdale County passed the HOST legislation that works with our sales tax -- unfortunately, we don't collect

Page 49

1 sales tax; Dekalb County does -- in the very
2 fine print on that law it says "street lights
3 for roadway lighting." So that -- technically,
4 in my mind, that means they are supposed to pay
5 for our street lights.
6 However, I believe it was --
7 Councilman Bates, was it 2007 or 2008?
8 -- I think that Georgia Power said,
9 "Well, Dekalb County won't pay us any more," and
10 they started sending us the bill.
11 So unfortunately, as you can see, that
12 has gone up from $162,000 to $183,000 a year. I
13 was going to see if we could institute a policy
14 such as Dekalb County has. On unincorporated
15 Dekalb, they charge 40 cents per lineal foot on
16 the frontage of a property. But unfortunately,
17 we don't have what is called a "street light
18 district" so we can't lawfully start billing you
19 for street lights that have been in existence
20 since 1962.
21 So this is sort of a charge that we're
22 going to have to continue to eat until that HOST
23 legislation tax is -- We've been in litigation
24 for over 10 years now -- until that is finally
25 settled out. I mean we're still hoping that

Page 50

1 we're going to get money from that litigation,
2 but who knows? I can't even really find anybody
3 that can tell me exactly what court it's in or
4 what stage it's in right now. But I just
5 thought I'd try to get somebody else to pay for
6 the street lights.
7 The elections budget. We didn't have
8 anything in the elections budget last year
9 because we didn't have any elections. This
10 year, our budget's a little bit higher because
11 we have a special election tomorrow -- please
12 get out and vote -- and then we have elections
13 in November.
14 So that's everything that we went
15 through. And we were able to, with everyone's
16 help get the budget down to about 10.3.
17 Expected revenues are 9.9, so you can see we do
18 still have a shortfall of about $380,000.
19 The one-time cost, personnel phase-
20 outs, I'm picturing a 120-day phase-out on our
21 personnel adjustments.
22 We currently have contracts with two
23 cities to offer them jail services. We want to
24 continue to have a good working relationship
25 with those two cities. We may need them in the

Page 51

1 future; they may need us. So we can't very well
2 say, July 1, "Sorry, the door is closed."
3 So there's a budget in there of the 120
4 phase-out for the personnel adjustments. As one
5 of our citizens reminded us last meeting, I
6 believe it was, it does cost to terminate
7 someone. That was her language, not mine.
8 I found out that a city does not use
9 unemployment insurance like a private business
10 does. I did some research yesterday, and our
11 unemployment benefits are handled through the
12 Georgia Municipal Association.
13 So how the Georgia Municipal
14 Association does it is you don't pay monthly
15 unemployment insurance. Instead, unfortunately,
16 you pay the benefits when they are drawn. So
17 that calculation not only is an estimate of
18 three months' salary and benefits for these
19 personnel adjustments but it also considers 26
20 weeks at $330.00 each for their unemployment
21 benefits. So unfortunately, that's an added
22 cost, but it's a one-time cost.
23 So in final, the shortfall estimate is
24 $571,747.96, and I'm proposing for the purpose
25 of this budget that that be transferred from

Page 52

1 reserves, which currently in CD's we have 1.8
2 million dollars. We also have additional moneys
3 in -- in various savings accounts.
4 But if you would go to the next page,
5 I'm hoping that with some of these proposed
6 savings, revenue streams, that we don't have to
7 transfer money out of reserves, that instead we
8 can balance the budget with actual income.
9 In my talking with the department
10 heads, I have been approached by some department
11 heads that are interested in finding out about
12 the early retirement options that are available.
13 We have a meeting, I believe it's
14 Wednesday night, with the GMA retirement person
15 who has been warned we're going to have lots of
16 questions to ask.
17 So we may see additional personnel
18 adjustments by employees taking early
19 retirement. So that could be a cost savings
20 also and that could affect our one-time costs on
21 our personnel adjustments.
22 It's very important that when he is
23 here, that we address item number two, change in
24 the retirement benefits. We are estimating our
25 pension plan payment which is due in December to

Page 53

be 704 or 708 thousand dollars. That is a lot of money and that's a lot of money to come up with at once. Last year, I believe it was $683,000, so it seems like every year it goes up.

We have a lot of questions to ask the gentleman because technically we are paying money in now for employees that aren't vested, that may never be vested. What happens to those moneys? You know, what happens to the employees that are vested in the account? So we have lots of questions. But we have got to -- we don't want to follow in Mayor Reed's and the City of Atlanta's footsteps. We have got to put the brakes on this because $700,000 is a lot of money for us to come up with. So we're hoping to get some good information on Wednesday when he comes to visit us.

Possible savings in workmen's comp and liability insurances. We currently have contracted with J. Smith Lanier. They are reviewing all our coverages and they are supposed to give Ms. Wilson a report back, who I hope will have great savings in it on the 27th, and we will be getting that information and

Page 54

reviewing that and hopefully have a great savings.

Review of benefit providers. This is something Councilman Bates and I had mentioned after we first got elected. We had been with the current health insurance provider broker for a very long time. However, I was extremely embarrassed when an employee came up to me and informed me that he went online and found our exact same Blue Cross/Blue Shield coverage for less money. That is unacceptable to me.

We are a city. We have roughly a hundred and something employees. We probably have 200-and-something people being insured. We should be getting the best bang for our buck because we in turn are passing those costs on to our employees.

So I don't know. You know, I would like for us to very seriously take a look at our benefits provider and try to improve the service that we're getting, and that's improving the value that we as a city and our employees are getting.

Outsourcing opportunities. I think there are some good aspects to look at

Page 55

outsourcing various services that the City currently provides.

Review of all fees. That falls back on Council. We have been trying to review the fee schedule I don't know how long now. It is in Mr. Cooley's hands, and he and Mr. Pierce are reviewing it. I believe the courts are reviewing their fees also. So we need to look at reviewing all fees.

One of the things that's been mentioned before and one of the things that was mentioned in the department heads' meeting I had is improve the marketing of our vacant city properties. We have little handwritten signs out in front of them. That's not very inviting. So we need to try to see about, you know, making the buildings presentable, having professional signs out there, putting the properties on our Web site, things of that nature. We need to do a better job of marketing our vacant property.

Sale of excess equipment. Ms. McCain is all over that. We are going -- we have signed an agreement with GovDeals. I reviewed the Web site, and I thought it was just our state but it's all over the nation. So we're

Page 56

going to be selling excess property.

The department heads, I've asked them to assist her in taking photographs, identifying and describing the property. You know, don't just put, you know, I put a tractor, but you need more information than that before you put it on a Web site. So that is a goal: that all department heads are reviewing excess property to assist Ms. McCain and get that on the Web site.

Review and implementation of employee cost savings. At the meeting I had with the department heads, I handed out these sheets for ideas, and it says show me the money. I asked all department heads to hand these out to their employees and I encouraged them to fill them out and give us cost savings ideas, not just in their own departments but city-wide, and not just in purchasing or something or but even in processes -- how can we improve things? -- because time is money.

We have gotten a lot of these back. I think we're about up to 15 now. And I would like to see Council review these and actually implement them because there are a lot of good

Page 57

1 ideas. I mean something as simple as putting
2 all our forms online so when people come to us,
3 they print out their form at home and they
4 already have it filled out, and they're not
5 using our paper. Simple idea; it would help
6 flow and it would help everybody. So I hope
7 that we take what they suggest and implement
8 that.
9 Another one of the ideas that one of
10 the employees had submitted: review the energy
11 efficiencies and best practices in all City
12 buildings. I don't think we have any
13 programmable thermostats in City Hall, and that
14 needs to be fixed right away because there's no
15 sense in the air conditioning running on the
16 weekend. That power meter is just probably
17 spinning off the wall. So I think that's
18 something that is relatively inexpensive to
19 implement but would save us a lot of money in
20 the long run.
21 Review of current payroll system
22 provider. Unfortunately, unanimously, no
23 department heads like the payroll system that we
24 have implemented. They say employees lose time,
25 they say they have to spend hours in tweaking

Page 58

1 the time to make sure the employees get the
2 right amount of pay. So I'm going to be setting
3 up a meeting hopefully this Friday with the
4 payroll company and just sitting down, talking
5 to them, and say, hey, what is the issue? I
6 mean I've got employees that have lost 30 hours
7 of comp time. You know, it just disappears in
8 the system. And things like that need to be
9 rectified.
10 I also would like to look at -- there
11 is a company I believe that has made a bid to
12 the City of Chamblee to help with their HR,
13 called FlexBen, and I think that's something
14 that we may look into. I think that would
15 really help staff to have assistance with HR,
16 you know, tasks that they have to perform.
17 Council had mentioned elimination of
18 holiday pay or possible furlough days. That is
19 something that Council needs to evaluate. I
20 believe Ms. Wilson has some figures that Council
21 asked for regarding basically what one day of
22 pay is for the City, and she'll present that
23 soon.
24 And then another idea was eliminate and
25 reduce the Council's salary or reduce the

Page 59

1 Council seat. We currently have six Council
2 members. Other cities have an odd number of
3 Council members so there's not a tie, and they
4 also will have one from each district and two at
5 large. It was just another idea to think about,
6 but that would require, I believe, a change in
7 the charter.
8 So those are -- The last sheet are the
9 enterprise/restricted funds.
10 Sanitation. The budget for sanitation
11 was reviewed. The amount budgeted should cover
12 all the residential sanitation that we are under
13 contract and also the dump fees that we have
14 over on the Woodwin Road transfer station.
15 I had a meeting with the public works
16 director and I did suggest to him that we need
17 to try to implement a call-for-service pickup.
18 I've got some language from other cities where
19 it shows they do a call-for-service pickup, and
20 the residents are charged based on the amount of
21 items that are picked up and then taken to the
22 transfer station.
23 I also encouraged our public works
24 director to make sure we are recycling anything
25 we possibly can that is picked up, especially

Page 60

1 appliances. Go down the road to Newell. Even
2 if we get $10.00, that's $10.00 we didn't have.
3 So he's going to be checking into that.
4 The other enterprise funds are
5 stormwater -- any questions, I'll refer to
6 Mr. Strickland on that -- and our tree bank.
7 And then the hotel/motel tax, we raised
8 that a little bit. Our Holiday Inn is in a
9 state of influx now. It's not a Holiday Inn
10 now. It was a Plaza, and now I think -- I can't
11 remember what the name of it. Metro Hotel now I
12 think is what it's called. So that fund's
13 probably going to be in a little bit of flux.
14 I guess if anyone has any questions,
15 comments?
16 COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: I have a
17 question. Prior to this particular spread sheet
18 that we received yesterday, the projected
19 revenues were 9.271, and I'd like to know how we
20 increased $600,000 in the estimated revenues.
21 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Ms. Wilson
22 gave me an updated projected revenue sheet on
23 Friday afternoon that went up to 9.658.
24 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Could we see
25 that?

Page 61

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: (Presenting)
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: We need copies of all this, obviously.
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Okay. And my next question would be you're commenting about personnel adjustments. Are you referring to within the department or are you referring to personnel layoffs or possible, you know, part-timers or reduction in hours, or exactly what?
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: There will be personnel adjustments in the police department and E-911.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: According to this, the general fund, it shows a projected revenue amount of 9.8, or here it's 9.6. Are we talking about 9 percent?
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Yeah, 9.
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: So that doesn't match this number.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Right. I added in a hundred thousand dollars for court fees.
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: You mean 911 revenues.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: No. Court

Page 62

fees, for the tickets.
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Do we have a sheet of the detail of the revenues and what we propose that they're going to be and the difference between the 2011, the new budget versus last year's revenue?
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: No. I guess we can prepare that.
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yeah. I think we need to see that.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Do you still want a copy of this?
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yeah. We'd like a copy of that too. We need copies of the detail obviously before we can really understand this.
I mean I appreciate the summary and I definitely appreciate all the work you've done. But you know, we're still not balanced, and there's a lot of detail that needs to show up behind this.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Such as?
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Well, I'm very concerned about the revenue number. I mean I've been hearing 9.2, 9.2, and of that 9.2, I think

Page 63

a hundred -- $200,000 was for jail revenue, and that's going away.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: The jail revenue has been removed. And these were compared to actuals year-to-date from Friday, and I can get you that information if you would like that also.
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yeah, I think the Council would need that.
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Okay. If you don't mind, if I can move forward, you indicate the $165,000 liability insurance was removed from the Mayor's budget and spread throughout the other budgets?
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Correct.
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: I did not see street lights listed, and I may be mistaken, but street lights listed in our 2010-11 budget. And if they were, what line item or what department were they in?
MS. WILSON: The street lights were under the Mayor's budget.
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Last year.
MS. WILSON: Yes, ma'am.
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Okay. So that

Page 64

means they're coming out of. So that means we need to take another $162,000 out of the Mayor's budget?
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: No.
MS. WILSON: No, ma'am. We've already done that.
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: If I heard you correctly, Madam Mayor, I believe you said that you added in the I.T. under the Mayor's budget that was previously disbursed --
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Correct.
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: -- amongst the departments?
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: $94,500.
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Okay. $471,000 for the Mayor's budget last year. Take the street lights of $162,000 out. Take out a hundred --
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: I'll be glad to give you the sheet, I mean, Ms. Fleming, if you want to see it.
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: I'm sorry?
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: I'll be glad to give you the sheet.
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Sure.

Page 65

1 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yeah. I think we
2 need all the detail before we --
3 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: I mean I --
4 What does Council want to achieve by seeing the
5 detail?
6 COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Well,
7 Ms. Alexander, you asked for questions, and I'm
8 just asking questions.
9 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: And by seeing the
10 detail, we can compare what we're doing this
11 year versus what we were doing last year.
12 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: And that's
13 what the object of my summary sheet was.
14 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Part of the
15 responsibility of the Council apart from making
16 sure that we get the best use of the money is to
17 make certain that the priorities that people
18 elected us want to have in place are taken care
19 of, and one way to do that is to look at line
20 items in the budget. Doesn't mean we have to
21 cover every single line item, but when we just
22 see a summary, we need to see something that
23 makes up these numbers.
24 I mean this is a spread sheet. So
25 presumably, there's another page, for instance,

Page 66

1 that says, you know, animal control, $78,000. I
2 mean there should be another page on the spread
3 sheet that links to this budget.
4 I think that that's -- I mean I can't
5 make a decision -- Well, it would be very
6 difficult to make a decision on one page versus
7 I think the budget for last year was about 30
8 pages, and rightly so. It takes a long time, it
9 takes a lot of work to go through all this.
10 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: You're not --
11 you're preaching to the choir about taking a
12 long time and going, doing a lot of work.
13 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: I understand
14 that, but the Council --
15 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: 19 days --
16 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: -- has to --
17 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: -- to put a
18 budget together.
19 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: I understand, and
20 it should have been started the beginning of the
21 year in my opinion.
22 COUNCILMEMBER BATES: So when we first
23 got the budget work sheets and we had our very
24 first meeting and we started off with Ms. Henry
25 at the library and made a quick realization that

Page 67

1 this budget wasn't going to work the way we had
2 done it in the past, Council discussed amongst
3 ourselves that we weren't going to do line-item
4 budget reviews, that we wanted to do a summary
5 and making sure that we have the money allocated
6 to departments and let them run the department
7 based upon their ability to manage their
8 resources that we provided to them.
9 Is Council wanting to change that
10 direction and now go back to a line-item budget
11 review?
12 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: No.
13 COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: No, sir.
14 Mr. Bates, you're absolutely right.
15 That's exactly what I said: I did not want to
16 see line-item review.
17 But because Ms. Alexander brought up
18 the fact that she took $165,000 liability
19 insurance from the Mayor's budget and spread it
20 thought the other budget, I'm looking at last
21 year's budget --
22 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: No, it was
23 more than that. Let me find the sheet.
24 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: How will a
25 department head know how to manage their budget

Page 68

1 if they don't have a budget?
2 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: They do.
3 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Well, then, could
4 we --? Is it a secret from the City Council, I
5 mean?
6 COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: If I can finish
7 please.
8 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Sorry.
9 COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: That should be
10 a reduction from last year.
11 And also I was just informed that
12 street lights was in the Mayor's budget last
13 year, and unless it's under professional, it's
14 not listed. So that should be another $162,000
15 off of last year's budget. Then we need to add
16 the $95,000 for the I.T. services.
17 And so Mr. Bates, that's the reason. I
18 mean I'm just questioning some of the items that
19 Ms. Alexander brought up. That's all.
20 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: The liability
21 insurance -- I'm sorry -- is $250,000 that was
22 spread out over the departments.
23 COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Okay. Thank
24 you very much.
25 In regards to our insurance and going

Page 69

1 out for another agent, I think that of course is
2 appropriate. However, your embarrassment from
3 an employee who looked online, it could be very
4 well that because we have so many claims, that
5 our insurance premium is higher than one would
6 see on an online review. I just want to make
7 that as a comment.
8 And as far as enterprise funds for
9 Mr. Strickland, I notice that stormwater is up
10 or is requesting an increase.
11 And I would just -- first of all, I
12 want to make sure that in that budget, which we
13 don't see, but in that budget, that all of the
14 personnel costs are in there?
15 MS. WILSON: Yes.
16 COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: But the
17 projected stormwater budget is increasing, but
18 we also get revenues from that, so I would have
19 liked to have seen the revenue offset to the
20 stormwater increase in budget. Thank you.
21 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: I realize --
22 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Can I have my
23 sheet back please.
24 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: I realize right
25 now we're still showing a shortfall but I do

Page 70

1 think this pending information we're waiting on
2 hopefully will change that, especially with the
3 insurance broker that's looking at our liability
4 and workers' comp, because based on what they've
5 been able to do with other municipalities, I'm
6 expecting to see savings of at least $100,000.
7 Is that fair?
8 MS. WILSON: Yes, ma'am, that is fair.
9 `I talked with -- Jason was here, of
10 public works underwriters, Michelle, last week,
11 and we just talked about what do I project to
12 see, because I don't want to see the same thing
13 I'm spending right now. And she said that she
14 had told all the insurance carriers, do not go
15 over $400,000. I believe right now we're
16 spending about $500,000, so we will see that
17 $100,000 approximately.
18 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: So I am
19 anticipating that information --
20 MS. WILSON: Yes, ma'am.
21 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: -- hopefully.
22 But we can maybe put in before we adopt? I
23 don't know what date we're adopting.
24 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: 28th.
25 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: So that's one

Page 71

1 savings there that should be coming.
2 MS. WILSON: Yes, ma'am. We're meeting
3 on next Monday. I believe it's at 10 o'clock
4 we're supposed to meet. I have to look at my
5 calendar again, but it's really early next
6 Monday morning.
7 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: And I do want
8 to make a comment on the life insurance -- I
9 know there are some employees here -- that
10 employees are paying for.
11 We do still have lifetime benefits
12 through our pension plan even if you're not
13 vested in the pension if that employee dies in
14 service. So the reason to go optional is we're
15 already providing that benefit. So even if
16 you've only worked here for a year and you
17 unfortunately die, your spouse is still getting
18 or beneficiary is still getting lifetime
19 benefits.
20 If we change the retirement plan to
21 drop that lifetime benefit, then I would support
22 the City perhaps providing the life insurance
23 premium again.
24 I do think just as we are realizing
25 cost savings by going with a new broker for the

Page 72

1 other insurance, that next year we be able to do
2 that for health insurance also.
3 The fees, I know the departments are
4 working on it.
5 I believe we're going out for RFP on
6 court reporter.
7 I guess you have the information on
8 furlough days.
9 MS. WILSON: Yes, ma'am. Just doing a
10 rough number, it's about $20,000, but I want to
11 look at everything because I think some of the
12 part-time people, we'll still include just a few
13 of them. But just looking at one day could be
14 under $20,000.
15 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: I want to try
16 to avoid that --
17 MS. WILSON: Okay.
18 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: -- if we can,
19 especially if we're getting more information
20 about reduction in the liability insurance and
21 everything.
22 Outsourcing opportunities. I would
23 like to put out an RFP for our lawn services
24 because lawn care across the city is costing us
25 just in labor about $150,000 a year. That

Page 73

1 doesn't include equipment costs. And I would
2 like to put out an RFP for that to do a cost/
3 benefit analysis.
4 Do you want me to make that in a
5 motion?
6 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Yes, ma'am.
7 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: I'll make that
8 in the form of a motion, to put out an RFP for
9 lawn care services.
10 And what I would like to do is maybe do
11 it broken down in sections with maybe a cost
12 just for the municipal buildings around here on
13 Park Avenue and then also all the parks and then
14 other right-of-ways to like break it down, and
15 then a total cost, so that we can then do a
16 cost/benefit analysis, because 150 to 200
17 thousand dollars seems very high.
18 COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Second.
19 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any
20 discussion?
21 COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Yes. I'd like
22 to know how many displaced employees you're
23 going to have by putting that out for RFP, and
24 until you can tell me what you're going to do
25 with those displaced employees, I'm not in favor

Page 74

1 of it.
2 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: It may very
3 well end up in a reduction in staff. I can't
4 say that for now because I do not have numbers
5 in front of me on potential savings for the City
6 or maybe no savings.
7 We currently have three employees my
8 understanding is that that's their duty. I
9 wouldn't say that those would be three
10 employees. That's up to the department head if
11 it results in the reduction of employees. That
12 may be what's happening.
13 But right now we're trying to save
14 money, and I think a cost/benefit analysis is
15 warranted. Just the salaries alone for those
16 three employees is $114,000, and that's before
17 benefits.
18 COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: If we're doing
19 a cost/benefit analysis, I don't have a problem
20 with that.
21 If you're making a suggestion that we
22 go out for RFP to contract this particular
23 service, I would not be in favor of that. There
24 are several other items in the city that have
25 been suggested to go out for RFP and have been

Page 75

1 shot down, so therefore, I would not be in favor
2 of going out for an RFP to replaces the services
3 that we presently have.
4 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: I think if we're
5 going to go out for RFPs for this, I do agree
6 with Councilwoman Fleming that we need to make
7 it across the board.
8 I mean we can't afford to spend money
9 when we don't need to be spending money, and I
10 think that every area of course, and some of
11 them have already been mentioned tonight, needs
12 to be looked at, but you know, sometimes --
13 I was talking with someone not too long
14 ago, and when you're rebalancing a budget, when
15 you're straightening out a budget for an organi-
16 zation, sometimes you have to actually create
17 new job positions, and maybe one new position
18 would be a contract manager, you know, because
19 we have all these different contracts and all
20 these different RFPs. You know, sometimes we
21 need a grant writer -- you know, a professional
22 grant writer instead of, you know, just
23 whatever.
24 And it's interesting when you see a
25 company laying off, often they're hiring also,

Page 76

1 because they're understanding that, you know,
2 maybe they don't need this particular position
3 and they eliminate those positions but it's cost
4 effective to actually bring in some other
5 positions too.
6 I have no idea what's going on,
7 frankly, because, again, I appreciate all the
8 work, but, you know, this is not a budget. This
9 is just a summary page that, you know, we'd need
10 to be able to --
11 We've had issues, constantly issues
12 with reports and having problems with the
13 numbers on reports not matching or not
14 balancing, et cetera, et cetera. So even if
15 it's just for that reason, I think we all need
16 the detail. I think the public has a right to
17 see that detail also.
18 But the end result -- and you know, I
19 can almost live with a one-time charge for, you
20 know, personnel costs because, as I said last
21 time, how we treat employees when we have to
22 eliminate a position is very, very important.
23 And we have to treat them fairly, not just for
24 them but for the people that are left behind.
25 I've sat across the room. There's

Page 77

1 nothing -- I've sat across that table, and
2 there's nothing worse than telling somebody and
3 knowing that that man or that woman has to go
4 home and tell their family that they're out of
5 work. It's horrible. I've been there, done
6 that. And I've been on the other side too, you
7 know. That's why it's so important to treat.
8 So I can almost live with the one-time charge
9 for that.
10 But if we only have 1.8 million dollars
11 in the bank now, that's very scary to me,
12 because I don't know. Do we have the cash flow
13 to take us through the end of the year?
14 I mean is there a cash flow analysis
15 from our finance department that shows when
16 we're going to get our next big chunk of money
17 and are we taking in enough money on a monthly
18 basis to pay the bills so that the paychecks
19 that we do have for our employees don't bounce?
20
21 And I understand that Mayor Alexander
22 has done a great job of averting a crisis; you
23 know, we've cashed in a whole bunch of CD's to
24 cover our expenses for I guess the next couple
25 of months.

Page 78

1 But you know, I was here a couple
2 nights ago for the Mayoral thing, and I remember
3 looking around at the room where people were --
4 you know, it was basically standing room only.
5 Doraville's outgrown this building. And when I
6 took office, there was enough money in the bank
7 to definitely, easily purchase and rebuild a
8 decent civic center that's going to meet our
9 needs. And our courthouse is a disgrace, and we
10 had the money to do that too but it's gone now
11 because we've been so -- we've just spent and
12 spent and spent.
13 So I've said it before and I'll say it
14 again. I haven't voted for an unbalanced budget
15 yet. I'm not going to vote for an unbalanced
16 budget based on maybe we'll get this money or
17 maybe that'll happen or whatever.
18 If this budget isn't balanced, I don't
19 see how I can support it and I don't see how
20 anyone else could either.
21 Thank you. I've made my speech.
22 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: It does have
23 a zero balance at the bottom.
24 We are talking about affecting the
25 lives of 10 City employees. That is a lot of

Page 79

1 people. This has not been undertaken without
2 thinking about it impacts every single resident
3 in this city and every single employee we have.
4 The residents wanted to keep QOL. It's
5 in here. They wanted to keep animal control.
6 It's in here. Other adjustments that have been
7 suggested by Council and other people have been
8 taken into effect, and that is reflected here,
9 and it results in personnel adjustments. Those
10 are the cold, hard facts.
11 CLERK McCAIN: Mayor Alexander, I have
12 a motion on the table to put out RFP services
13 for lawn care.
14 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Did I get a
15 second?
16 COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Yes.
17 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Call the roll
18 please.
19 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?
20 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: I'm sorry.
21 Any further discussion on the RFP for lawn
22 service?
23 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: I think we need
24 to look at it from a holistic standpoint, not
25 just one little thing here and one little thing

Page 80

1 there. We're just chasing the dog around the
2 yard. If we're going to manage it, we need to
3 manage it from a holistic, overall organi-
4 zational level.
5 So it's not that I disagree with the
6 idea, but I think that trying to piecemeal it
7 like this will just add more confusion, so.
8 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Call the
9 roll, please.
10 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?
11 COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Yes.
12 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Fleming?
13 COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: No.
14 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Pachuta?
15 COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Yes.
16 CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Roche?
17 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: No.
18 CLERK McCAIN: Mayor?
19 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Yes.
20 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: When is our next
21 budget hearing scheduled? I think we have it on
22 Wednesday?
23 CLERK McCAIN: June 22nd, yes, at
24 7:00 p.m.
25 COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Okay.

Page 81

CLERK McCAIN: We will have that and the retirement gentleman there.

COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: I have a question regarding fees.

Have you gotten any feedback from the department heads? And I know Mr. Cooley's been starting to look at it, if our fees are in line with other municipalities and the cost, or do we expect those might go up? down? Is it too early?

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: I haven't gotten any feedback yet from Mr. Cooley and Mr. Pierce. I think they were still in their review process.

Mr. Cooley, do you have a --

MR. COOLEY: We're trying to find out some additional information regarding the annual costs last year, because of the way the building permits were set up was based upon that part of the formula. One of the things Mr. Pierce is doing is we're looking at other ones trying to keep this as simple as we can.

There are some fees that are, in my opinion and Mr. Pierce's opinion, very difficult for especially residential, that are not

Page 82

appropriate and really should be based upon the amount of time that's involved in doing the reviews, to make it sustainable.

Just going through, I did see some fees in there that were for things that we do. So it's going to be a question. You know, part of that is keeping it reasonable for the public but also it needs to be on the basis of covering our cost.

As you know, we went out to RFP for that information about the service for commercial review. Went out to RFP. We'll have those for you soon, I believe next week.

And one of the things is -- and I've got to get more in depth with the code -- is typically what you see is that's a straight pass-through. If there's additional beyond what the fee costs, that's a direct pass-through to the applicant, which it should be if additional services are required. Need to make sure that that's the way we cover it and that's the way this is written.

Now, to answer your question whether it goes up or down, I think there's some that probably will be adjusted down. I think there's

Page 83

others that probably need -- we need to get a good grip on whether --

There were some cuts, I think, suggested, that I questioned. And I really want to see it based upon the amount of time that it takes for internally to do it, or if not, if it goes outside, it should be a pass-through. The City shouldn't be absorbing that.

COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: The revenue line item, did we just base it on last year's actuals?

MS. WILSON: Yes, ma'am, we did.

COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Seems like -- and I don't know if this would be a violation of the client-attorney privilege. I believe you work for Sandy Springs also. Seems like I read that Sandy Springs actually waived fees for new businesses to encourage more business to come into Sandy Springs. Did I get that wrong?

ATTORNEY McLENDON: No attorney/client on that. It's called public record.

And what they did was reduce fees, all their permit fees in half for one year and then extended it into a second year.

COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: And the whole

Page 84

point was, I think, to -- I mean now of all times we want to encourage people to fix up their houses, you know, encourage businesses to come into town, So I'm not sure that raising fees would necessarily enhance our revenue situation. In fact, I think it may have the opposite effect. I think we've got to be very careful about that.

Thank you.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Council, any further comments?

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Thank you for your hard work along with the department heads.

COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Maria has put in a ton of work and a lot of very late hours over the past couple weeks.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: And I've got --

COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: We appreciate it.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you.

And I've got three items that Council has requested, and then we've got the figure of approximately $20,000 per day for furloughs.

The next item on the agenda is Major

Page 85

Atkinson.
MAJOR ATKINSON: Yes, ma'am. Mayor and Council, every year we come before you about this time of year and present to you our asset forfeiture budget revisions and our asset forfeiture budget for the next year.
So I'm going to go ahead and present this to you, and as before -- and this is the copy for the Clerk that needs to be certified as before.
It's a vote to receive this document. You should have six pages in front of you. Three are for budget revision of the federal, state and treasury funds and three or for the upcoming year's budget for federal, state and treasury.
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Don't we usually get a list of all the transactions? Are we going to get that also?
MAJOR ATKINSON: We turn that in monthly.
COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Yes.
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: No, the transactions, the actual expenditures.
MS. WILSON: I get their report every

Page 86

month.
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Could we get it, please?
MS. WILSON: Yes.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: I'd like a motion, please, to accept the asset forfeiture information.
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: I make a motion to accept the -- to really receive. It's kind of like a speeding ticket. It just says you know you've --
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Sign here.
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: -- got it and it doesn't necessarily mean you're pleading guilty.
But yes, receipt of the asset forfeiture -- confiscated asset funds, federal and state budget revisions for year ending June 30th, 2011 and proposed budget for year ending June 30th, 2012.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Second?
MAJOR ATKINSON: Treasury as well.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Treasury as well.
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: And treasury for both years.

Page 87

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Second, please?
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Second.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any discussion?
- - -
(No response)
- - -
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Call the roll, please.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Yes.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Fleming?
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Yes.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Pachuta?
COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Yes.
CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Roche?
COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yes. Thank you.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you, Major.
MAJOR ATKINSON: Thank you.
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Any reports from committees, commissions, boards and appointments?
- - -

Page 88

(No response)
- - -
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: I don't believe so.
Public comments.
MS. NAPPO: I don't have anything to say about the budget but I'll just say my little piece and then you-all can get on with it.
For the record, my name's Caroline Nappo, N-a-p-p-o. I'm here about the property located at 3903 Flowers Road.
On May the 16th, the Council was gracious enough to allow a business license to conduct business pertaining to HVAC at that property. Because it's part of the record, I'm here today just to give an update and a current status.
The owners of that property, Carol and Stephen Adams, I did extend an invitation that I thought that they should be here because I think it's only fair whenever there's some sort of dispute especially in a public forum, both parties should at least have a chance to say. But I look around and see that they are not here.

Page 89

For the record, I just wanted the Council to know that Climate Relief has never occupied this property even though we were granted that business license. Personal property is still located there.

The homeowner -- Last week, I went to Doraville Police. I called them out to file an informational report because it was brought to my attention you can't really file a complaint on a he-said/she-said, because it was just the two parties there.

But I was physically threatened. I cannot get into that building unless Doraville Police escorts me. So truthfully, it's not a good relationship for the tenant to have with a landlord under those situations.

So I am here to at least let it officially be known that Climate Relief is not the official entity of that address at 3903.

It is my understanding that the owner intends to occupy that as a residence. I didn't think that he could, because I spent months trying to get it from a C-1 to C-2, which I accomplished, and I didn't think that you could live there.

Page 90

Anyway, so I am here to at least let it be noted for the public record that Climate Relief is not the business conducting at the facilities at 3903 Flowers Road.

Thank you, and good luck with that budget.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Ms. Nappo --

MS. NAPPO: Yes, ma'am.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: -- will you be pursuing another location in Doraville? We would hate to lose your business.

MS. NAPPO: I am hoping to. I think we just have to get this sorted out with the landlord, and that is my intent.

And yes, very much so. We made the decision to be in Doraville because that's what we wanted, and so it is our intent to look elsewhere.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Thank you.

MS. NAPPO: So keep us in mind when you think about the thermostat in this building.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Thank you, ma'am.

MS. ORR: Lindy Orr, 3596 Raymond.

Thank you again for your hard work on

Page 91

the budget. My largest concern is that if we are starting out in the ditch and it's the start of the year, it's only going to go further in the ditch.

Based on what you're telling us, we actually have additional costs that have not been trued up into these numbers if we still have issues with animal control requirements that aren't meeting code; some things at E-911, some things on the police department. So I'm actually a little concerned about we've really got true numbers here to work from.

The other issue we're facing is, as you well know, we're raising our millage increase here in the city. So is Dekalb County, because they had a problem with their budget and they went over, and several of their departments did not meet their budget, so they're passing that on to us.

I think if you talk to a lot of people in this room, we've already probably filed appeals for our values. So if we're assuming revenues based on this 9 percent millage increase and we have enough of us that file these appeals, your revenue stream number is

Page 92

going to be less than what you're projecting.

I am under the assumption that we still have City vehicles that are going home with people. That's a huge expense. I mean you've got the liability, you've got the gas, you've got the insurance, and the vehicle depreciates out much faster.

We've got to look at that. I mean that's got to be a line item that would be a huge improvement on these numbers, I mean just from what I would think.

I just want to make sure I was clear on the sanitation deficit. It actually is now going to balance with those of us that pay so that even though we have those folks who don't pay, it's still going to work out okay? Okay.

I just didn't figure out how that would happen, but okay.

So the only thing I -- I mean I think that the ideas that people have come up with are great ideas, but it's not an option of being an idea right now. We've got to implement these items.

I mean public works can come in. I can hook up a programmable thermostat in my home. I

Page 93

1 mean that's inexcusable. They should be able to
2 do that immediately. I mean there's enough
3 people up there that they should be able to. I
4 mean I haven't blown up my house yet, so I got
5 to believe that it's not that hard to do.
6 So I think we've got to start putting
7 in place the things that need to be done and not
8 just these are great suggestions, because we are
9 in the ditch, and it's not really right to not
10 balance this budget. Thank you.
11 MR. CRAWFORD: Ben Crawford, Oakcliff
12 Estates.
13 I actually think that this is like a
14 360 turnaround from the previous budget, so I
15 think that it's a good step in the right
16 direction by the Mayor, Acting Mayor, and also
17 by the City Council.
18 I don't know if it's kind of convenient
19 that's election time and everybody's decided to
20 get along real well or if this is some step in
21 the future for all City Council -- I hope it's
22 a step in the future -- whether people agree or
23 disagree, that they work as a good governing
24 body for the city.
25 I do think there are some areas that

Page 94

1 could be tweaked a little bit. One was I had a
2 suggestion about perhaps getting some magnetic
3 signs, and maybe you don't agree with it, and
4 maybe sell those hybrids that the Quality of
5 Life people have -- even used, they're probably
6 about 20-something thousand bucks apiece -- and
7 let them put on a magnetic sign and pay them 51
8 cents a mile.
9 And you only got a 10-square mile
10 radius of the city I guess is what it is, and
11 you'd be driving around in your own car, and I
12 think the City will save a bunch of money
13 because we wouldn't be paying for their
14 insurance or anything. A lot of departments
15 statewide actually pay 51 cents a mile and have
16 been doing it for 50 years. They don't supply a
17 state vehicle.
18 So it may not be a bad thing to look
19 at, and there may be other areas where you can
20 look at, you know, ditching some vehicles.
21 But I think this is a step in the right
22 direction. You know, I guess I'm not the guy
23 that usually makes many positive remarks, so
24 this is actually I think a good step forward.
25 Thank you.

Page 95

1 MS. RAWLINS: Linda Rawlins, Oakcliff
2 Estates. Thank you for what all of you do. I
3 just have a couple of questions and a couple of
4 statements.
5 The two police cars --
6 The police department does an excellent
7 job. I know at times they've been really
8 stretched out, but I'm always bragging to
9 everybody about our police department.
10 Without the two cars, would we still
11 have adequate safety?
12 And I also very much like keeping 911
13 in place. You know, I did have an emergency at
14 my home, and I don't want 911 to be shorted at
15 all.
16 I guess there was a nonprofit situation
17 to using our jail space for the other cities? I
18 thought it was to kind of help fill our jail
19 space, but it must not have been a practical
20 thing by us changing it.
21 Are we readily trying to go after
22 businesses and residents that are behind on
23 their fees of all kinds? I think I read about
24 giving the court -- letting people come in and
25 pay their fines. So are we readily addressing

Page 96

1 and going after people and businesses behind on
2 their fees?
3 I'm a state employee. I'll tell you
4 right now it wasn't easy to experience a year's
5 worth of furlough days, but it works. At least
6 the state let me have a furlough day instead of
7 saying go home.
8 So if you have to do furlough days,
9 it's not fun but it works, versus you letting
10 some employees go.
11 And procurement, there's always a long
12 time needed something to be done about
13 procurement procedures in the city, so I'm glad
14 to see that.
15 And can I see a copy of what you did
16 have that you were going to do about procure-
17 ment but it didn't pass tonight?
18 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: It did pass.
19 You mean changing the Clerk?
20 MS. RAWLINS: Maybe that was -- I
21 thought it was the procurement --
22 COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Ms. Rawlins?
23 MS. RAWLINS: -- item that you didn't
24 pass.
25 COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Ms. Rawlins

Page 97

(presenting).
MS. RAWLINS: Maintenance. Maybe you could, but I don't see how you could RFP out maintenance and get a better cost and then in turn probably let your own employees go. I have to see that, those numbers. That wouldn't be good employee relations to RFP that out if your own people could do it, so I just don't see how you could get an RFP for less money.
I think that's all I had to either ask or comment on. Thank you.
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Thank you.
MS. FRAYSSE: Susan Fraysse, Oakcliff Estates.
I know it's a lot of things going on at the same time especially with the budget and all, but my ears did perk up during -- I guess it was during the audit or one of the other budget meetings, about the fact that we maybe have not yet written down all of our financial procedures.
And I remember that was a big issue four years ago, and we sort of had some procedures. And then we had some others, and then we had two at the same time. And we

Page 98

couldn't tell -- Sort of like the map, the city map; you'd have different versions of it.
So I know we were at one time trying to struggle with it, and I'm sure it's difficult, but it might be a piece that we have to get in place to deal with all these other problems. So I would applaud any effort toward getting those procedures established across the city.
MR. ANDERSON: Stuart Anderson.
MS. ORR: That doesn't work. You got to speak up.
MR. ANDERSON: I don't have much.
MS. ORR: Project.
MR. ANDERSON: Project, yes. I'm going to project.
On a positive note relative to what Mr. Cooley said, I think he's going to evaluate the fees. And I definitely agree with somebody else that spoke earlier that managing the fees and looking at them is certainly a way to promote businesses coming into the city, so I think that's a very positive management step.
Under discussion of the parks, did I hear incorrectly or correctly that there was $200,000 for capital improvement added to the

Page 99

budget or taken out?
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Removed.
MR. ANDERSON: Removed.
Oh, yes. Street lights. We have two sets of street lights, the original street lights and the new fancy ones. Are we lighting them all? Are we paying for two sets of street lights?
COUNCILMEMBER BATES: (Nods head)
MR. ANDERSON: That was a question a couple years ago. Can't we just go out and turn off half of them? I mean is there a requirement as to how many street lights we have to have per linear foot or something?
But anyway, that was the other deal, about the cost of double street lights. Thank you.
MR. HART: Thanks for all the hard work.
When I left office, we had eight and a half million dollars in cash. Do I hear you correctly that we have 1.8 left?
MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: In CDs.
MR. HART: I mean what is the total cash restricted and nonrestricted?

Page 100

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: I've gotten a report. I haven't reviewed it. But it's 1.8 in CDs, and we have some in savings accounts. I get a report every day.
MR. HART: Okay. Well, and thank Bob Roche for asking the tough questions, because the devil's in the details here.
And since we've been going through this process for the last six months, there's been more said about where we are financially and where the cash position is than -- I mean it changes on a daily basis.
To ask the question what are the details behind these numbers or what are the actual cash numbers, that's a question that needs to be asked, and more importantly, it's one that needs to be answered.
If the numbers don't match up, the easiest thing is to fudge the income numbers, and that's what's been going on. And when you said 1.8 cash in CDs, I think the whole community is just like a deer caught headlights. I mean they're just staggered by that number.
When he asked about the street lights on Buford Highway, we have two sets of lights.

Page 101

1 We have the old lights sitting on top of the
2 poles and then we have the new lights that run
3 down the street. And then during -- I guess
4 Jason turned on every light bulb in Oakcliff, so
5 it's part of the landing system in PDK now. We
6 could probably -- we could probably cut a few
7 out and make some people happy over there.
8 The way I see it, there's basically
9 $400,000 available for cash flow from the way
10 I'm looking at it is you've got all those
11 restricted funds. And you know, we don't get a
12 paycheck from the citizens once a month to
13 operate this business here. It's called a cash
14 flow problem.
15 I'm not happy with what I'm hearing
16 tonight. I don't think you have resolved the
17 issue and still walk out of here with $600,000
18 negative. I don't think that's a good enough
19 answer, and you can't crawl into a cave.
20 The maintenance department, sending
21 this RFP out. We have to move the city forward.
22 The maintenance department is an integral part
23 of moving the city forward into the future
24 whether we're talking about development, whether
25 we're talking about doing the off ramps.

Page 102

1 No matter what we're talking about
2 here, you're cutting your fingers off here to
3 save five cents. Thank you.
4 MR. SHANAHAN: David Shanahan. Small
5 items.
6 You-all are talking about the lawn.
7 And I see the crews out there cutting
8 frequently. They look nice. If there was
9 something other than lots of green grass, are
10 they cheaper in the long run to keep up?
11 This is just purely a personal
12 aesthetic. It was very twentieth center to have
13 that much green grass and that few trees over
14 this many acres. I don't think you find that in
15 a lot of similar size towns. I think they've
16 greened it up a lot; have a lot more plants,
17 rocks, paths, whatnot. Probably costs a little
18 bit in the short run; in the long run, I think
19 the maintenance would be less.
20 And y'all have several rental
21 properties in this area, and I'm just curious if
22 -- I assume efforts are being made to get those
23 rented, looking at past budget, and I noticed
24 the rental income number was higher in past
25 years. So just curious how that was going.

Page 103

1 And I do look forward to seeing the
2 details. It would be easier to compare to past
3 budgets. Thanks, and nice work.
4 MR. CHAMBERS: Richard Chambers, New
5 Peachtree Road. One thing about the street
6 lights, which I guess is number five or six to
7 talk about, about a year ago I mentioned to the
8 Mayor that the street lights on the overpass
9 were out, whatever. Virtually every single
10 light was out. We're paying X-amount per month
11 whether the light is burning or not, so I think
12 we ought to make sure that all the lights --
13 Somebody -- Luke did it I think at that
14 time -- go out and actually make a list -- call
15 Georgia Power, have them come out and replace
16 the bulbs so that they're working.
17 We may then be able to see, if they're
18 all working, we can eliminate every third or
19 every fourth light pole and save some money that
20 way instead of having unburning lights.
21 Also I think that the City could send a
22 letter to private companies that do have these
23 lights on their property, such as the fuel farm,
24 et cetera, et cetera, suggest to them that they
25 get the power company out to replace those.

Page 104

1 Could be a way we could start eliminating a few
2 of the poles in place and reducing what we're
3 having to pay.
4 I'm wondering if the planning
5 department, the money was showing there to be
6 paid out which was either inadvertently or
7 incorrectly collected from the business owners,
8 which we still have not gotten back, at least I
9 have not. And this was brought up in January.
10 I know we have a new department head.
11 Can we please get a status report on that?
12 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: The check
13 requests for all of those were sent to finance,
14 and I believe finance will be printing the
15 checks tomorrow.
16 MR. CHAMBERS: Excellent. Thank you.
17 What's the status of Doraville tow
18 service? Anybody know? It's a beautiful
19 building. Did we run him off?
20 MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: I have no
21 idea.
22 MR. CHAMBERS: And with the budgets
23 that the department heads turned in, was there
24 something on there where they were supposed to
25 sign it saying that they were going to stick to

Page 105

it, that they would manage their department and not go over, with some penalty if they do? Because you take so many government agencies -- for instance, Medicare started out at 40 billion and turned into 400 billion in less time than it was supposed to.

So even though we have those numbers, I think we need their commitment that they are going to stick to that and continue to try and cut additional moneys from their budgets, and I think we need the line items to see what those are. Thank you.

Thank you very much for all your hard work. I know it's not easy, but I think we do need to see the line items. I know it was a lot of work.

MR. LIVINGSTON: Charles Livingston.

I'm aware that different municipalities around the city have absolutely eliminated overtime in these hard times, and I've not heard anything. I haven't attended all the meeting. Maybe there's something been done.

Has there been a policy change where we are maybe considering not having overtime, or has overtime been included as a part of the

Page 106

budgets for each department that is in the budget here?

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Overtime has been included in all parts of the budget, but overtime has been stopped without approval, currently.

That was effective what day?

COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Right after you took office.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: June 8th, I believe it was, and --

MR. LIVINGSTON: Okay. That's already in effect, though?

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Yes, sir. And no purchasing without approval, either.

MR. LIVINGSTON: Because I know I got involved in looking at a number of open records requests. I don't know what we paid in overtime, but it was humongous.

So it's still going on but it's with approval.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Only by prior approval.

CLERK McCAIN: Only by the Mayor, not by a department head.

Page 107

MR. LIVINGSTON: Okay. That's all I have. Thank you.

MR. SHANAHAN: I missed the first part. The jail, is that closing down?

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: It's going to be the Doraville city jail.

MR. SHANAHAN: The Doraville city jail.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Yes, sir.

MR. SHANAHAN: Okay. I had mentioned several months ago that in riding the MARTA train from the airport, that it was -- they give announcements at every stop, and I noticed we were still saying the GM assembly plant, and that got taken off of there.

Well, I just came back from the airport, and we say, "City Hall and detention center," and we have a lot of awesome stuff here in this town. I'd get really excited to hear that announcement talk about -- say something else about what we have here. We've got the best grocery store in the city. We have a lot of awesome restaurants.

I would love to hear some of that, because we have several thousand people coming to Doraville to get on the train to go to work

Page 108

and they come back, so that's two times they get on the train. It would be great for those thousands that come in, leave at 8:00, come in and come back at 5:00, to hear some of what we have in town.

Thank you.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Motion to adjourn?

COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Second.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Call the roll, please.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Bates?

COUNCILMEMBER BATES: Yes.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Fleming?

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING: Yes.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Pachuta?

COUNCILMEMBER PACHUTA: Yes.

CLERK McCAIN: Councilmember Roche?

COUNCILMEMBER ROCHE: Yes.

MAYOR PRO TEM ALEXANDER: Thank you, everyone.

- - -

(Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20 p.m.)

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1 C E R T I F I C A T E
2 TE OF GEORGIA]
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70:6,17
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43:14
$150,000 (2)
41:1;72:25
$16,000 (1)
15:10
$162,000 (4)
49:12;64:2,17;68:14
$165,000 (3)
42:5;63:12;67:18
$177,000 (1)
48:13
$183,000 (1)
49:12
$2,796 (1)
13:11
$2,901 (1)
13:1
$20,000 (3)
72:10,14;84:24
$200,000 (3)
44:13;63:1;98:25
$21,000 (1)
46:19
$25.00 (2)
27:17;35:10
$250,000 (1)
68:21
$3,900 (2)
12:24,25
$30,000 (1)
44:12
$330.00 (1)
51:20
$380,000 (1)
50:18
$400,000 (2)
70:15;101:9
$471,000 (1)
64:15
$492.23 (1)
43:18
$500,000 (1)
70:16
$571,747.96 (1)
51:24
$600,000 (2)
60:20;101:17
$62,000 (1)
46:11
$683,000 (1)
53:4
$700,000 (1)
53:15
$78,000 (1)
66:1
$94,000 (1)
47:4
$94,500 (1)
64:14
$94,5000 (1)
47:4
$94.00 (1)
44:8
$95,000 (1)
68:16
$97,000 (2)
45:3;46:2

`

`I (1)
70:9

1

1 (5)
10:20;13:18;43:8;
44:1;51:2
1.8 (5)
52:1;77:10;99:22;
100:2,21
10 (4)
30:3;49:24;71:3;78:25
10.3 (1)
50:16
10-square (1)
94:9
120 (1)
51:3
1200 (1)
8:19
120-day (1)
50:20
15 (1)
56:23
150 (1)
73:16
16 (1)
7:11
16th (1)
88:12
17 (1)
45:10
19 (1)
66:15
1962 (1)
49:20
1982 (1)
48:22
1995 (1)
6:22

2

200 (1)
73:16
200,000 (1)
41:11
2007 (1)
49:7
2008 (1)
49:7
200-and-something (1)
54:14
2010-11 (1)
63:18
2011 (2)
62:5;86:18
2011-12 (1)
11:1
2011-2012 (1)
10:20
2012 (1)
86:19
20-something (1)
94:6
20-year-plus (1)
7:9
22nd (1)
80:23
26 (1)
51:19
27th (1)
53:24
28th (1)
70:24
2nd (1)
23:25

3

3 (2)
26:17,19
30 (2)
58:6;66:7
30th (2)
86:18,19
3596 (1)
90:24
360 (1)
93:14
38 (1)
7:9
3903 (3)
88:11;89:19;90:4

4

40 (3)
7:22;49:15;105:4
400 (1)
105:5
455-1000 (1)
42:16

5

5:00 (1)
108:4
50 (1)
94:16
51 (2)
94:7,15

6

600-and- (1)
44:7
6th (3)
3:18,20;36:24

7

7:00 (1)
80:24
704 (1)
53:1
708 (1)
53:1

8

8:00 (1)
108:3
8:20 (1)
108:24
8th (1)
106:10

9

9 (3)
61:16,17;91:23
9.0 (1)
40:22
9.2 (3)
62:25,25,25
9.271 (1)
60:19
9.6 (1)
61:15
9.658 (1)
60:23
9.7 (1)
40:20
9.8 (2)
40:21;61:15
9.9 (1)
50:17
911 (6)
41:1;42:14,19;61:23;
95:12,14

A

ability (3)
37:7;44:23;67:7
able (10)
15:5;30:18;48:4;
50:15;70:5;72:1;76:10;
93:1,3;103:17
Absolutely (3)
30:25;67:14;105:19
absorbing (1)
83:8
accept (4)
5:7;10:6;86:6,9
accepting (1)
41:8
accessible (1)
46:8
accomplished (1)
89:24
accordance (1)
22:17
according (2)
34:13;61:13
account (1)
53:11
accounting (2)
37:11;47:22
accounts (2)
52:3;100:3
achieve (1)
65:4
acres (1)
102:14
across (6)
26:1;72:24;75:7;
76:25;77:1;98:8
Act (1)
24:4
Acting (3)
4:20,23;93:16
action (2)
16:17;20:12
actual (3)
52:8;85:24;100:15
actually (20)
6:15;17:4,24;21:22;
22:1;45:2,22;46:1;
47:25;56:24;75:16;76:4;
83:17;91:6,11;92:13;
93:13;94:15,24;103:14
actuals (5)
40:25;41:2;45:22;
63:5;83:11
AD (1)
8:19
ADA (2)
46:4,7
Adams (1)
88:19
add (2)
68:15;80:7
added (7)
45:4,10,22;51:21;
61:21;64:9;98:25
addition (2)
7:8;33:5
additional (11)
13:24;32:23;33:4;
48:16;52:2,17;81:17;

82:17,19;91:6;105:10
address (2)
52:23;89:19
addressing (2)
21:25;95:25
adequate (1)
95:11
adjourn (1)
108:8
adjourned (1)
108:24
adjust- (1)
42:10
adjusted (1)
82:25
adjusting (1)
42:15
adjustment (3)
42:24;43:1;48:10
adjustments (13)
41:12,18;42:12;48:5;
50:21;51:4,19;52:18,21;
61:6,11;79:6,9
administration (1)
46:20
admiration (1)
7:1
adopt (10)
11:5;16:19;20:18;
24:10;28:24;29:15;
34:20;35:24;37:21;
70:22
adopted (3)
23:25;29:1,11
adopting (5)
20:2,3,20;34:10;70:23
adoption (2)
25:14;34:1
aesthetic (1)
102:12
Affairs (1)
25:20
affect (1)
52:20
affecting (1)
78:24
afford (1)
75:8
afternoon (1)
60:23
Again (18)
17:19;19:13;25:16;
29:8;42:9,24;43:16;
44:16,22;45:1,3;46:24;
47:1;71:5,23;76:7;
78:14;90:25
agencies (1)
105:3
agenda (8)
12:1,7,10;15:9;21:21;
22:3;40:3;84:25
agent (4)
36:21;37:2,22;69:1
agents (1)
37:8
ago (7)
18:19;75:14;78:2;
97:23;99:11;103:7;
107:10
agree (4)
75:5;93:22;94:3;98:18
agreement (3)
11:5;16:21;55:23
ahead (1)
85:7
air (1)
57:15
airport (2)
107:11,16
alcohol (2)
22:14;23:3
ALEXANDER (143)
3:2,7,17,21,23;4:3,13,
22,24;9:16,20,23;10:9,
15,19,23;11:7,12,22,24;
12:9,14;13:17,20,23;
14:6,11,21;15:12,20,25;
16:10;17:22;18:7;19:17,
24;20:14,24;21:2,15;
22:5,9,11,23;23:4,6,11,
21;24:13,21;25:1,12;
32:17;33:8,10,24;35:16,
21;36:1,4,9,19;37:13,18,
24;38:4,14;39:2,6,9,14,
24;40:4;47:13;60:21;
61:1,10,13,17,20,25;
62:7,11,22;63:3,15;64:4,
11,14,19,23;65:3,7,12;
66:10,15,17;67:17,22;
68:2,19,20;69:22;70:24;
73:6,19;77:21;78:22;
79:11,14,17,20;80:8,19;
81:11;84:10,17,21;86:5,
12,20,22;87:1,4,9,19,22;
88:3;96:18;99:2,23;
100:1;104:12,20;106:3,
10,14,22;107:5,8;108:7,
11,21
Allegiance (1)
3:5
allocated (1)
67:5
allow (3)
24:5;25:25;88:13
allowable (1)
34:13
allowing (3)
23:1;29:10;30:5
allows (2)
30:7,12
almost (3)
40:21;76:19;77:8
alone (1)
74:15
along (4)
24:7;46:24;84:13;
93:20
alternative (1)
28:23
always (2)
95:8;96:11
Ambassador (3)
7:14,17,25
ambassadors (1)
8:1
amendments (1)
34:8
America (1)
6:3
American (5)
5:5;7:14,24;8:1,8
Americans (1)
5:24
amongst (2)
64:12;67:2
amount (6)
58:2;59:11,20;61:15;
82:2;83:5
analysis (8)
26:11;40:22,24;73:3,
16;74:14,19;77:14
and-a-third (1)
7:15
ANDERSON (6)
98:9,9,12,14;99:3,10
Animal (5)
42:22;43:3;66:1;79:5;
91:8
animals (1)
43:9
announcement (1)
107:19
announcements (1)
107:12
annual (3)
15:8;17:23;81:17
answered (1)
100:17
anticipated (1)
41:18
anticipating (1)
70:19
apart (1)
65:15
apiece (2)
44:9;94:6
apologize (2)
11:25;12:1
appeal (4)
31:7,9,13,18
appeals (4)
31:16,16;91:22,25
applaud (1)
98:7
Applause (2)
7:4;9:12
appliances (1)
60:1
applicant (1)
82:19
appointments (1)
87:24
appreciate (5)
5:7;62:17,18;76:7;
84:19
approached (1)
52:10
appropriate (2)
69:2;82:1
approval (5)
29:9;106:5,15,21,23
approve (10)
3:18,20;14:4;15:18;
16:18;17:4,6;23:1;28:9,
11
approving (1)
20:20
approximately (3)
70:17;84:24;108:24
arborist (1)
16:14
area (3)
19:10;75:10;102:21
areas (2)
93:25;94:19
arena (1)
44:15
arguably (1)
7:23
armed (1)
8:5
Army (1)
6:19
around (9)
7:16;8:3;44:17;73:12;
78:3;80:1;88:24;94:11;
105:19
article (3)
26:13,17,19
arts (1)
6:7
Ashe (10)
4:15;5:2,6,10,10,15,
20;7:2,6;9:14
Aside (1)
19:13
askew (1)
46:25
aspect (1)
18:4
aspects (1)
54:25
assembly (1)
107:13
asset (5)
85:4,5;86:6,15,16
assist (2)
56:3,9
assistance (1)
58:15
assistant (1)
48:4
Association (2)
51:12,14
assume (2)
20:6;102:22
assuming (1)
91:22
assumption (1)
92:2
ATKINSON (7)
9:22;18:15;85:1,2,20;
86:21;87:21
Atlanta (1)
5:14
Atlanta's (1)
53:14
attended (3)
18:15,16;105:21
attention (1)
89:9
attorney (27)
5:8;9:18,19;22:8;
25:14,16;27:1,11,16,20;
28:14;29:2,7,17;30:25;
31:5,9,14;32:2;33:22;
34:6,24;35:5,9,15;48:21;
83:20
attorney/client (1)
83:20
attorneys (1)
10:6
attrition (1)
48:14
audit (1)
97:18
authority (1)
9:3
auto- (1)
42:17
availability (1)
27:8
available (7)
28:6;30:19;32:9,9,14;
52:12;101:9
Avenue (1)
73:13
average (2)
10:10,12
averting (1)
77:22
avoid (1)
72:16
aware (2)
14:24;105:18
away (2)
57:14;63:2
awesome (2)
107:17,22

B

back (15)
8:19;9:8;22:3;37:5;
40:17;43:22;53:23;55:3;

56:22;67:10;69:23;
104:8;107:15;108:1,4
background (1)
7:12
bad (2)
32:15;94:18
balance (4)
52:8;78:23;92:14;
93:10
balanced (2)
62:19;78:18
balancing (1)
76:14
ballot (1)
22:15
bang (2)
21:23;54:15
bank (3)
60:6;77:11;78:6
bare (1)
26:22
base (1)
83:10
based (16)
40:21,22,24;42:3,7;
43:3;46:10;59:20;67:7;
70:4;78:16;81:19;82:1;
83:5;91:5,23
bases (1)
30:10
basic (1)
6:22
Basically (16)
10:1;17:6,15;19:20;
29:9,20;30:1,5;34:14;
41:2,6;47:1;48:8;58:21;
78:4;101:8
basis (4)
17:23;77:18;82:8;
100:12
Bates (71)
3:9,10,22;4:5,6,21;
9:10;11:4,14,15;13:4,9,
12,16;14:3,13,14;15:8,
17;16:2,3;18:13;19:7;
21:1,7,8;22:10;23:5,13,
14,22,24;25:3,4;30:21;
31:1;34:18;35:3,7,14;
36:11,12;37:20;38:6,7;
39:16,17;47:12;49:7;
54:4;64:7,12;66:22;
67:14;68:17;73:18;
79:16,19;80:10,11;
84:12;87:3,11,12;96:22,
25;97:12;99:9;108:10,
13,14
bathroom (3)
46:5,7,12
Battle (1)
6:4
beautiful (1)
104:18
become (1)
27:23
beginning (1)
66:20
begins (1)
10:20
behind (7)
32:4;33:1;62:21;
76:24;95:22;96:1;
100:14
believing (1)
44:23
Ben (1)
93:11
beneficiary (1)
71:18
benefit (4)
54:3;71:15,21;73:3
benefits (11)
41:19;47:16;51:11,16,
18,21;52:24;54:20;
71:11,19;74:17
besides (1)
5:12
best (7)
6:20;16:17;20:11;
54:15;57:11;65:16;
107:21
better (5)
15:6;44:4,24;55:20;
97:4
beyond (1)
82:17
Bid (4)
23:22;24:2,10;58:11
bids (1)
24:6
big (2)
77:16;97:22
Biggers (1)
48:8
bike (1)
8:2
bilities (1)
42:21
bill (1)
49:10
billing (1)
49:18
billion (2)
105:4,5
bills (1)
77:18
bit (6)
48:2;50:10;60:8,13;
94:1;102:18
blown (1)
93:4
Blue (1)
54:10
board (3)
31:16;48:9;75:7
boards (1)
87:23
Bob (1)
100:5
body (2)
47:10;93:24
bone (1)
48:20
book (4)
27:10,12,15;35:12
books (1)
32:20
both (5)
15:4;30:4;42:11;
86:25;88:22
bottom (1)
78:23
bounce (1)
77:19
Bowes (1)
12:22
boxing (1)
47:25
bragging (1)
95:8
brakes (1)
53:15
Branch (2)
29:6,7
braving (1)
5:3
break (2)
38:16;73:14
brief (1)
7:7
brightest (1)
5:16
bring (2)
26:22;76:4
broken (1)
73:11
broker (3)
54:6;70:3;71:25
brother (2)
7:10,25
brought (5)
36:25;67:17;68:19;
89:8;104:9
buck (1)
54:15
bucket (2)
45:14,15
bucks (1)
94:6
budget (87)
9:15;10:21;11:1;
13:21;38:15,18,22;40:6;
41:14,17,24,25;42:2;
43:11,15,16,18;45:3,5,
17,17,25;46:21;47:1,5,9;
48:11,14;50:7,8,16;51:3,
25;52:8;59:10;62:5;
63:13,18,22;64:3,9,16;
65:20;66:3,7,18,23;67:1,
4,10,19,20,21,25;68:1,
12,15;69:12,13,17,20;
75:14,15;76:8;78:14,16,
18;80:21;85:5,6,13,15;
86:17,18;88:7;90:6;
91:1,16,18;93:10,14;
97:16,19;99:1;102:23;
106:2,4
budgeted (2)
43:20;59:11
budgets (7)
7:20;47:20;63:14;
103:3;104:22;105:10;
106:1
budget's (1)
50:10
Buford (1)
100:25
building (6)
46:5;78:5;81:18;
89:13;90:21;104:19
Buildings (6)
47:19,22,24;55:17;
57:12;73:12
built (2)
6:14,15
bulb (1)
101:4
bulbs (1)
103:16
bulletproof (1)
6:13
bunch (2)
77:23;94:12
burn (1)
29:24
burning (1)
103:11
bus (1)
44:7
business (13)
8:24;22:12;32:5;
36:20;51:9;83:18;88:13,
14;89:4;90:3,11;101:13;
104:7
businesses (5)
83:18;84:3;95:22;
96:1;98:21
busy (1)
5:8
buy (2)
27:10;32:20

C

C-1 (1)
89:23
C-2 (1)
89:23
calculation (1)
51:17
calendar (1)
71:5
Call (15)
3:8;4:3;11:12;14:11;
15:25;23:11;25:1;36:9;
38:4;39:14;79:17;80:8;
87:9;103:14;108:11
called (7)
37:11;49:17;58:13;
60:12;83:21;89:7;
101:13
call-for-service (2)
59:17,19
calls (2)
42:14,19
came (5)
6:3;40:17;48:9;54:8;
107:15
camp (1)
44:6
can (43)
3:3;17:3,9;22:15;
26:20;27:23;29:2;30:15;
31:12;32:20;34:4,24;
35:6,10;41:3;49:11;
50:3,17;52:8;56:20;
59:25;62:8,15;63:6,11;
65:10;68:6;69:22;70:22;
72:18;73:15,24;76:19;
77:8;78:19;81:22;88:8;
92:24,24;94:19;96:15;
103:18;104:11
cap (2)
43:12,12
capital (3)
44:14;46:4;98:25
car (1)
94:11
card (1)
8:25
care (4)
65:18;72:24;73:9;
79:13
careful (1)
84:8
Carol (1)
88:18
Caroline (1)
88:9
carriers (1)
70:14
cars (3)
41:14;95:5,10
cash (10)
40:14;77:12,14;99:21,
25;100:11,15,21;101:9,
13
cashed (1)
77:23
Casimir (2)
6:2,11
category (2)
44:19;47:19
caught (1)
100:22
cave (1)

101:19
caveats (1)
34:2
CDs (3)
99:23;100:3,21
CD's (2)
52:1;77:23
celebrated (1)
5:18
center (3)
78:8;102:12;107:17
cents (4)
49:15;94:8,15;102:3
certain (1)
65:17
certainly (2)
34:15;98:20
certified (1)
85:9
cetera (4)
76:14,14;103:24,24
chain-of-command (1)
19:5
chair (1)
40:2
Chambers (4)
103:4,4;104:16,22
Chamblee (1)
58:12
chance (1)
88:23
change (9)
6:22;24:1;36:25;
52:23;59:6;67:9;70:2;
71:20;105:23
changes (4)
17:10;20:8;22:17;
100:12
changing (2)
95:20;96:19
charge (5)
10:12;49:15,21;76:19;
77:8
charged (1)
59:20
Charles (1)
105:17
chart (2)
19:25,25
charter (1)
59:7
chasing (1)
80:1
cheaper (2)
27:19;102:10
check (2)
32:18;104:12
checking (1)
60:3
checks (1)
104:15
Chicago (1)
8:11
Chief (1)
18:12
children (1)
44:7
choir (1)
66:11
Chopin (1)
6:9
chunk (1)
77:16
circula- (1)
32:21
circum- (1)
27:25
citation (3)
10:3,12;31:22
citations (2)
10:13;31:20
cite (1)
30:2
Cities (10)
8:18;16:24;17:21;
29:1;41:9;50:23,25;
59:2,18;95:17
citizens (5)
22:15;28:7;33:11;
51:5;101:12
city (62)
8:10;9:18;10:6;12:17,
21;13:3,7;15:2;18:25;
20:21;25:13;26:8,16;
33:7;34:14;37:1,6,8,21;
40:8,13;41:8;45:11;
46:20;48:21;51:8;53:13;
54:12,22;55:1,13;57:11,
13;58:12,22;68:4;71:22;
72:24;74:5,24;78:25;
79:3;83:8;91:15;92:3;
93:17,21,24;94:10,12;
96:13;98:1,8,21;101:21,
23;103:21;105:19;
107:6,7,16,21
city-wide (1)
56:18
civic (1)
78:8
claims (1)
69:4
clean (1)
29:16
clear (1)
92:12
clearance (1)
46:10
CLERK (78)
3:9,11,13,15;4:5,7,9,
11;11:14,16,18,20;
14:13,15,17,19;16:2,4,6,
8;21:7,9,11,13;23:13,15,
17,19;24:5;25:3,5,7,9,
11;29:6;32:18;33:7,9;
34:19,23;36:11,13,15,
17,23;37:6;38:6,8,10,12;
39:16,18,20,22;40:2;
45:13;46:22,23;79:11,
19;80:10,12,14,16,18,
23;81:1;85:9;87:11,13,
15,17;96:19;106:24;
108:13,15,17,19
Clerk's (2)
28:3;37:6
client-attorney (1)
83:15
Climate (3)
89:2,18;90:2
close (1)
9:8
closed (1)
51:2
closing (1)
107:4
club (1)
47:25
Code (24)
25:15,19,25;26:3,8,15,
15;28:12;29:3,10,19,25;
30:2;31:23;32:1,4;
33:18;34:22;35:4,7,9,25;
82:15;91:9
cold (1)
79:10
collect (1)
48:25
collected (1)
104:7
coming (5)
43:22;64:1;71:1;
98:21;107:24
comment (4)
19:11;69:7;71:8;97:11
commenting (1)
61:5
comments (7)
12:1,8,10;24:22;
60:15;84:11;88:5
commercial (1)
82:12
commissions (1)
87:23
commitment (1)
105:8
committees (1)
87:23
community (4)
5:14;25:20;28:4;
100:22
comp (4)
41:20;53:19;58:7;70:4
companies (1)
103:22
company (5)
44:24;58:4,11;75:25;
103:25
compare (2)
65:10;103:2
compared (1)
63:5
comparing (1)
45:22
complaint (1)
89:9
compliance (1)
43:6
concept (1)
37:10
concern (2)
27:7;91:1
concerned (2)
62:24;91:11
concerns (3)
18:14;42:11;43:2
condemn (1)
29:20
conditioning (1)
57:15
conduct (1)
88:14
conducting (1)
90:3
confirmed (1)
38:21
confiscated (1)
86:16
conflicts (3)
26:25;27:2,2
confusion (1)
80:7
consider (1)
41:21
considering (1)
105:24
considers (1)
51:19
consistent (2)
26:1,6
consolidate (1)
15:2
constantly (1)
76:11
Constitution (1)
5:20
Consul (2)
5:2,13
Consul-General (3)
4:15;7:6;9:14
consuls (1)
5:6
contacts (1)
19:3
contention (1)
48:20
contingent (1)
20:3
continue (4)
10:7;49:22;50:24;
105:9
contract (15)
9:24;10:8;12:18,18,
22;13:13;14:4,22;15:1,4,
18;47:4;59:13;74:22;
75:18
contracted (2)
17:9;53:21
contracts (4)
12:17;14:24;50:22;
75:19
contributes (1)
37:12
contributions (2)
5:24;6:7
control (6)
42:7,22;43:3;66:1;
79:5;91:8
convenient (1)
93:18
conversations (1)
29:14
Cooley (6)
48:7,9;81:12,15,16;
98:17
Cooley's (2)
55:6;81:6
Copernicus (1)
6:8
copies (6)
32:23;33:4;35:11;
40:1;61:2;62:14
copy (8)
26:2;33:13;34:4,4;
62:12,14;85:9;96:15
copyright (3)
27:13;28:18;34:17
copyrighted (2)
27:12;28:7
corrected (1)
20:8
corrections (1)
20:4
correctly (3)
64:8;98:24;99:22
cost (18)
42:6;44:2;48:16;
50:19;51:6,22,22;52:19;
56:12,17;71:25;73:11,
15;76:3;81:8;82:9;97:4;
99:16
cost- (1)
43:22
cost/ (1)
73:2
cost/benefit (3)
73:16;74:14,19
costing (1)
72:24
costs (11)
45:1;48:5;52:20;
54:16;69:14;73:1;76:20;
81:18;82:18;91:6;
102:17
council (45)
7:18;10:23;12:20;
13:23;14:23;15:12;

16:17;24:7,7;31:7,10,15,19;35:17;36:25;37:14;38:19;39:3;47:11,14,15,16;55:4;56:24;58:17,19,20;59:1,1,3;63:9;65:4,15;66:14;67:2,9;68:4;79:7;84:10,22;85:3;88:12;89:2;93:17,21
Councilman (2)
49:7;54:4
Councilmember (253)
3:9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,19,22;4:5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,21;9:10;10:16,25;11:3,4,6,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21;13:4,9,12,16;14:3,5,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20;15:8,17,19;16:2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9;18:13;19:7;20:6,16;21:1,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14;22:10,25;23:5,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,24;24:12,15;25:3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10;26:24;27:6,14,18;28:8,25;29:13;30:21;31:1,6,11,25;32:3,11;33:12,14,15,17;34:18;35:3,7,14,23;36:3,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18;37:9,20,23;38:6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13;39:5,8,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23;47:12;60:16,24;61:2,4,18,23;62:2,9,13,23;63:8,10,16,23,25;64:7,12,15,22,25;65:1,6,9,14;66:13,16,19,22;67:12,13,24;68:3,6,8,9,23;69:16,21,24;70:18,21,25;71:7;72:15,18;73:7,18,21;74:2,18;75:4;79:16,19,23;80:10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,20,25;81:3;83:9,13,25;84:12,14,19;85:17,22,23;86:2,8,13,24;87:3,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18;90:7,9,19,22;96:22,25;97:12;99:9;106:8;108:9,10,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20
Council's (2)
20:1;58:25
Councilwoman (1)
75:6
counselors (1)
44:6
Count (2)
6:2;8:9
country (2)
7:22,24
County (17)
6:5;16:22,24;17:9,20,20;20:4;32:21;40:23;43:4,9;48:23,23;49:1,9,14;91:15
couple (10)
17:1,25;18:21;24:17;77:24;78:1;84:16;95:3,3;99:11
course (7)
8:9,21;16:17;17:13;20:12;69:1;75:10
court (13)
30:3;31:8,13,21;45:1,1,8,13;50:3;61:21,25;72:6;95:24
courthouse (1)
78:9
Courts (3)
9:23;45:7;55:7
CourtWare (4)
9:24;10:2,8;11:5
cover (4)
59:11;65:21;77:24;82:21
coverage (1)
54:10
coverages (1)
53:22
covering (1)
82:8
CRAWFORD (2)
93:11,11
crawl (1)
101:19
create (1)
75:16
creating (1)
30:20
Creek (1)
29:4
crew (1)
48:13
crews (1)
102:7
criminal (1)
31:24
crisis (1)
77:22
criteria (5)
30:5,22;31:2;32:7,8
Cross/Blue (1)
54:10
cull (1)
26:20
cumulative (1)
27:3
Curie (1)
6:8
curious (2)
102:21,25
current (7)
7:13;13:13;31:22;46:22;54:6;57:21;88:16
Currently (14)
12:21,23;13:2;14:25;21:19;46:8;47:17;50:22;52:1;53:20;55:2;59:1;74:7;106:6
cut (3)
44:12;101:6;105:10
cuts (2)
40:17;83:3
cutting (5)
41:4;47:5,8;102:2,7

D

daily (1)
100:12
damaged (1)
8:18
dangerous (1)
30:20
date (5)
19:21;21:22;24:2;26:6;70:23
dates (1)
17:2
David (1)
102:4
Day (8)
5:20,20;58:21;72:13;84:24;96:6;100:4;106:7
days (6)
30:3;58:18;66:15;72:8;96:5,8
DCI (1)
27:5
deal (3)
15:6;98:6;99:15
dealing (1)
28:1
decades (1)
5:14
December (1)
52:25
decent (1)
78:8
decided (2)
47:15;93:19
decision (6)
31:12,17,18;66:5,6;90:16
declaring (1)
4:25
decrease (1)
41:23
decreased (1)
41:19
deeply (1)
7:21
deer (1)
100:22
defer (1)
19:14
deficit (1)
92:13
definitely (4)
19:17;62:18;78:7;98:18
Dekalb (15)
16:22,23;17:9,20;32:21;33:9;40:23;43:4,9;48:22;49:1,9,14,15;91:15
delegate (1)
19:4
depart- (1)
40:7
department (46)
9:17,21;19:15;24:6,8;25:20;37:3;40:10;41:3,5,13;42:6,15;43:17,20;46:17;48:3,10;52:9,10;55:12;56:2,8,13,15;57:23;61:7,11;63:19;67:6,25;74:10;77:15;81:6;84:13;91:10;95:6,9;101:20,22;104:5,10,23;105:1;106:1,25
departments (13)
13:14;16:12;41:22;42:3,4;47:5;56:18;64:13;67:6;68:22;72:3;91:17;94:14
dependent (1)
27:25
depends (1)
27:21
depreciates (1)
92:6
depth (1)
82:15
descendants (1)
8:9
describing (1)
56:4
design (1)
6:22
designate (1)
37:7
desires (1)
39:4
desk (1)
33:1
destroyed (1)
8:17
detail (8)
62:3,15,20;65:2,5,10;76:16,17
details (3)
100:7,14;103:2
detector (1)
6:21
detention (1)
107:16
determi- (1)
31:3
determination (1)
30:8
determine (1)
30:23
development (2)
28:4;101:24
devil's (1)
100:7
Dewberry (2)
17:8;20:5
dictional (1)
16:15
die (1)
71:17
died (1)
6:3
dies (1)
71:13
difference (3)
40:18;43:19;62:5
different (5)
14:24;75:19,20;98:2;105:18
difficult (4)
45:7;66:6;81:24;98:4
digest (1)
40:23
direct (2)
20:7;82:18
direction (3)
67:10;93:16;94:22
director (6)
16:14;30:9,22;44:20;59:16,24
director's (1)
44:18
disagree (2)
80:5;93:23
disagrees (1)
48:21
disappears (1)
58:7
disaster (3)
17:7,16;19:2
disbursed (1)
64:10
discussed (4)
25:18;38:19;40:5;67:2
discussion (18)
3:24;11:8;14:7;15:21;21:3;22:19;23:7;24:14;35:17;36:5;37:4,14,25;39:10;73:20;79:21;87:5;98:23
disgrace (1)
78:9
dispatchers' (1)
42:20
displaced (2)
73:22,25
dispute (1)
88:22
distinguished (1)
5:8
district (2)
49:18;59:4

ditch (3)
91:2,4;93:9
ditching (1)
94:20
divvy (1)
42:7
document (7)
28:7,9,10;34:7,16;
37:5;85:11
dog (1)
80:1
dollar (1)
8:14
dollars (10)
41:11;44:8,25;45:23;
52:2;53:1;61:21;73:17;
77:10;99:21
done (13)
17:22;18:20;19:12;
26:7;41:4;62:18;64:6;
67:2;77:5,22;93:7;
96:12;105:22
door (1)
51:2
Doraville (12)
5:1;23:1;34:14;41:8;
89:7,13;90:10,16;
104:17;107:6,7,25
Doraville's (1)
78:5
double (1)
99:16
down (19)
26:22;29:24;46:1,6,
18;47:2;48:2;50:16;
58:4;60:1;73:11,14;
75:1;81:9;82:24,25;
97:20;101:3;107:4
downtown (1)
35:12
drastically (1)
41:5
drawn (1)
51:16
driving (1)
94:11
drop (1)
71:21
dropped (1)
46:18
due (1)
52:25
dump (1)
59:13
Dunwoody (1)
29:5
during (5)
6:20;48:17;97:17,18;
101:3
duties (4)
8:6;37:6,11,22
duty (1)
74:8

E

E-911 (3)
42:9;61:12;91:9
earlier (3)
5:21;29:14;98:19
early (4)
52:12,18;71:5;81:10
ears (1)
97:17
easier (2)
29:16;103:2
easiest (1)
100:19
easily (1)
78:7
eastern (1)
7:24
easy (2)
96:4;105:14
eat (1)
49:22
educated (1)
43:6
effect (4)
13:18;79:8;84:7;
106:13
effective (3)
43:7;76:4;106:7
efficiencies (1)
57:11
effort (1)
98:7
efforts (1)
102:22
eight (1)
99:20
Either (6)
18:18;27:3;78:20;
97:10;104:6;106:15
elected (2)
54:5;65:18
election (2)
50:11;93:19
elections (4)
50:7,8,9,12
electronic (1)
24:16
eliminate (5)
26:10;58:24;76:3,22;
103:18
eliminated (3)
26:9;41:13;105:19
eliminating (1)
104:1
elimination (1)
58:17
else (4)
50:5;78:20;98:19;
107:20
elsewhere (1)
90:18
embarrassed (1)
54:8
embarrassment (1)
69:2
embassy (1)
8:22
emergency (1)
95:13
employee (9)
46:14,14;54:8;56:11;
69:3;71:13;79:3;96:3;
97:7
employees (31)
38:20;40:8;42:4;44:5;
46:8;48:14,15;52:18;
53:8,10;54:13,17,22;
56:16;57:10,24;58:1,6;
71:9,10;73:22,25;74:7,
10,11,16;76:21;77:19;
78:25;96:10;97:5
encourage (3)
83:18;84:2,3
encouraged (2)
56:16;59:23
end (3)
74:3;76:18;77:13
ending (2)
86:17,18
energy (1)
57:10
enforceability (1)
19:15
enforcement (1)
25:25
Engineering (1)
35:12
enhance (1)
84:5
enough (6)
77:17;78:6;88:13;
91:24;93:2;101:18
ensure (1)
20:8
entails (1)
41:6
enter (2)
10:3;32:21
enterprise (2)
60:4;69:8
enterprise/restricted (1)
59:9
entire (1)
28:11
entity (1)
89:19
equipment (3)
25:24;55:21;73:1
escorts (1)
89:14
especially (7)
28:21;59:25;70:2;
72:19;81:25;88:22;
97:16
established (1)
98:8
Estates (3)
93:12;95:2;97:14
estimate (2)
51:17,23
estimated (1)
60:20
estimating (1)
52:24
et (4)
76:14,14;103:24,24
Europe (1)
7:25
evaluate (2)
58:19;98:17
even (18)
9:5;18:15;32:8;33:14,
17;34:1;42:23;48:21;
50:2;56:19;60:1;71:12,
15;76:14;89:3;92:15;
94:5;105:7
evening (1)
12:20
event (1)
30:19
everybody (2)
57:6;95:9
everybody's (1)
93:19
everyone (4)
3:2;26:4;39:25;108:22
everyone's (1)
50:15
everywhere (1)
8:3
exact (1)
54:10
exactly (3)
50:3;61:9;67:15
excellent (2)
95:6;104:16
exceptions (2)
34:3,4
excess (3)
55:21;56:1,8
excited (2)
5:9;107:18
existence (1)
49:19
existing (1)
26:7
exists (1)
29:25
expect (1)
81:9
Expected (1)
50:17
expecting (1)
70:6
expenditures (1)
85:24
expense (2)
42:8;92:4
expenses (1)
77:24
experience (1)
96:4
expert (1)
19:8
explains (1)
7:13
extend (1)
88:19
extended (1)
83:24
extremely (1)
54:7

F

fabulous (1)
8:16
facilities (1)
90:4
facility (2)
30:24;43:5
facing (1)
91:13
fact (6)
17:11;25:18;43:17;
67:18;84:6;97:19
facts (2)
19:20;79:10
factual (1)
20:22
fair (3)
70:7,8;88:21
fairly (1)
76:23
falls (1)
55:3
family (1)
77:4
fancy (1)
99:6
fantastic (1)
43:22
far (4)
15:1;40:14;44:3;69:8
farm (1)
103:23
faster (1)
92:7
favor (6)
32:1,4;42:18;73:25;
74:23;75:1
federal (4)
17:7;85:13,15;86:16
fee (2)
55:4;82:18
feedback (3)
21:24;81:5,12
feeling (1)
20:1
fees (22)

33:25;41:1;43:24;
55:3,8,9;59:13;61:22;
62:1;72:3;81:4,7,23;
82:4;83:17,22,23;84:5;
95:23;96:2;98:18,19
FEMA (3)
16:22;17:17;18:10
few (4)
72:12;101:6;102:13;
104:1
fiberglass (1)
43:12
fighting (1)
6:1
figure (2)
84:23;92:17
figures (3)
38:22;41:20;58:20
file (3)
89:7,9;91:24
filed (1)
91:21
fill (2)
56:16;95:18
filled (1)
57:4
final (1)
51:23
finally (1)
49:24
finance (5)
37:2;48:3;77:15;
104:13,14
financial (1)
97:20
financially (1)
100:10
find (7)
27:9;29:11;33:3;50:2;
67:23;81:16;102:14
finding (1)
52:11
fine (4)
19:14;45:14,14;49:2
fines (5)
33:25;34:12,13;45:10;
95:25
fingers (1)
102:2
finish (1)
68:6
First (13)
4:19;5:7;6:14;7:16;
18:20;22:11;24:1;31:7;
54:5;66:22,24;69:11;
107:3
five (4)
18:1,19;102:3;103:6
five- (1)
7:14
fix (1)
84:2
fixed (1)
57:14
Fleming (59)
3:11,12;4:7,8;10:25;
11:3,16,17;14:15,16;
16:4,5;21:9,10;23:15,16;
25:5,6;28:8;31:25;32:3;
33:14,17;36:13,14;38:8,
9;39:18,19;43:25;60:16;
61:4;63:10,16,23,25;
64:15,20,22,25;65:6;
67:13;68:6,9,23;69:16;
73:21;74:18;75:6;80:12,
13;87:13,14;90:7,9,19,
22;108:15,16
FlexBen (1)
58:13
flow (5)
57:6;77:12,14;101:9,
14
Flowers (2)
88:11;90:4
Flowery (2)
29:6,7
flux (1)
60:13
folder (2)
13:7,8
folks (1)
92:15
follow (3)
30:23;32:8;53:13
following (2)
24:3;33:23
foot (2)
49:15;99:14
footsteps (1)
53:14
force (1)
43:4
forces (1)
19:4
foreign (1)
7:17
forfeiture (4)
85:5,6;86:6,16
form (4)
20:15,17;57:3;73:8
formalizes (1)
25:24
forms (1)
57:2
formula (1)
81:20
forum (1)
88:22
forward (6)
26:1;63:11;94:24;
101:21,23;103:1
fought (1)
6:3
found (3)
34:25;51:8;54:9
founding (1)
5:10
Four (4)
13:7,8;18:19;97:23
fourteen (1)
10:13
fourth (1)
103:19
frank (1)
40:12
Frankly (2)
30:16;76:7
FRAYSSE (2)
97:13,13
Frederic (1)
6:9
freedom (1)
6:2
frequently (1)
102:8
Freudian (1)
4:23
Friday (3)
58:3;60:23;63:5
friendship (1)
6:25
front (3)
55:15;74:5;85:12
frontage (1)
49:16
fudge (1)
100:19
fuel (1)
103:23
full (1)
26:11
full-time (1)
46:13
fun (1)
96:9
fund (1)
61:14
funds (8)
17:7;18:10;59:9;60:4;
69:8;85:14;86:16;
101:11
fund's (1)
60:12
furlough (5)
58:18;72:8;96:5,6,8
furloughs (1)
84:24
furnace (1)
29:23
further (8)
21:2;24:21;35:16;
36:4;37:13;79:21;84:11;
91:3
Furthermore (1)
43:6
future (4)
51:1;93:21,22;101:23

G

garbage (1)
7:19
gas (1)
92:5
GASB (1)
47:21
gate (1)
46:11
gave (1)
60:22
GEMA (2)
16:22;17:17
general (3)
32:13;46:20;61:14
gentleman (2)
53:7;81:2
Georgia (10)
6:5;24:3,3;25:22;34:8;
35:11;49:8;51:12,13;
103:15
given (2)
6:24;29:9
giving (1)
95:24
glad (3)
64:19,23;96:13
GM (1)
107:13
GMA (1)
52:14
goal (1)
56:7
goes (4)
34:20;53:4;82:24;83:7
good (19)
8:15;9:14;12:20;28:5;
32:15;37:10;38:16;
50:24;53:17;54:25;
56:25;83:2;89:15;90:5;
93:15,23;94:24;97:7;
101:18
goodness (1)
9:2
GovDeals (1)
55:23
governing (2)
47:10;93:23
government (3)
9:8;24:19;105:3
gracious (1)
88:13
grant (3)
9:3;75:21,22
granted (1)
89:4
grass (2)
102:9,13
great (9)
8:19;9:7;44:11;53:24;
54:1;77:22;92:21;93:8;
108:2
greater (1)
5:13
green (2)
102:9,13
greened (1)
102:16
grip (1)
83:2
grocery (1)
107:21
group (1)
19:11
guess (13)
20:2;27:6;29:13;
60:14;62:7;72:7;77:24;
94:10,22;95:16;97:17;
101:3;103:6
guilty (1)
86:14
guy (1)
94:22
guys (1)
10:6

H

habitation (3)
29:21;30:10,24
half (4)
7:9;83:23;99:12,21
Hall (6)
12:17;13:7;20:21;
46:20;57:13;107:16
Halpern (1)
44:13
hand (1)
56:15
handed (1)
56:13
handled (2)
45:8;51:11
handout (1)
39:25
hands (2)
37:2;55:6
handwritten (1)
55:14
handy (1)
18:10
happen (2)
78:17;92:18
happening (1)
74:12
happens (4)
5:14;18:11;53:9,10
happier (1)
9:5
happy (2)
101:7,15
hard (7)
79:10;84:13;90:25;
93:5;99:18;105:13,20

HART (3)
99:18,24;100:5
hate (1)
90:11
Hazard (3)
16:15,19;20:19
hazmat (1)
19:8
head (9)
10:18;24:6,9;40:8;
67:25;74:10;99:9;
104:10;106:25
heading (1)
47:23
headlights (1)
100:22
heads (11)
40:11;52:10,11;56:2,
8,13,15;57:23;81:6;
84:13;104:23
heads' (1)
55:12
health (3)
47:16;54:6;72:2
hear (5)
98:24;99:21;107:18,
23;108:4
heard (5)
6:8,9;43:24;64:7;
105:20
hearing (4)
30:4;62:25;80:21;
101:15
help (9)
40:7;41:4;46:16;
50:16;57:5,6;58:12,15;
95:18
Henry (2)
46:6;66:24
Henryk (1)
6:10
he-said/she-said (1)
89:10
hesitate (1)
8:24
hey (1)
58:5
hiding (1)
32:4
high (1)
73:17
higher (3)
50:10;69:5;102:24
Highway (1)
100:25
Hill (1)
5:11
hired (1)
48:8
hiring (1)
75:25
hold (1)
42:14
holding (1)
43:5
holiday (3)
58:18;60:8,9
holidays (1)
5:19
holistic (2)
79:24;80:3
home (7)
27:8;57:3;77:4;92:3,
25;95:14;96:7
homeowner (1)
89:6
honor (2)
5:22;6:5
honorably (1)
5:11
Honorary (4)
4:15;5:2,5,12
hook (1)
92:25
hope (3)
53:24;57:6;93:21
hopefully (7)
18:9;26:4;46:17;54:1;
58:3;70:2,21
hoping (4)
49:25;52:5;53:16;
90:12
horrible (1)
77:5
HOST (2)
48:24;49:22
Hotel (1)
60:11
hotel/motel (1)
60:7
hour (1)
5:3
hours (5)
48:17;57:25;58:6;
61:9;84:15
house (2)
5:17;93:4
houses (1)
84:3
Howe (3)
4:17,19,23
HR (2)
58:12,15
huge (2)
92:4,10
human (2)
29:21;30:10
humongous (1)
106:19
hundred (6)
10:13;45:23;54:13;
61:21;63:1;64:18
HVAC (1)
88:14
hybrids (1)
94:4

I

idea (10)
28:5;32:11,12;57:5;
58:24;59:5;76:6;80:6;
92:22;104:21
ideas (9)
43:23,23;44:2;56:14,
17;57:1,9;92:20,21
identified (2)
19:9;29:18
identifying (2)
37:21;56:3
II (2)
6:20;8:17
Ikon (2)
14:25;15:3
immediately (2)
30:12;93:2
impact (1)
42:5
impacts (1)
79:2
implement (5)
56:25;57:7,19;59:17;
92:22
implementation (1)
56:11
implemented (1)
57:24
importance (4)
17:5;18:8;19:18,19
important (6)
30:16,18;42:20;52:22;
76:22;77:7
importantly (1)
100:16
improve (3)
54:20;55:13;56:20
improvement (3)
46:4;92:10;98:25
improvements (1)
44:14
improving (1)
54:21
inadvertently (1)
104:6
include (4)
38:22;41:17;72:12;
73:1
included (8)
11:1;16:24;28:13,16,
19;45:16;105:25;106:4
includes (1)
47:24
including (2)
5:19;30:11
income (5)
41:10;47:25;52:8;
100:19;102:24
inconsistent (1)
26:21
incorporated (2)
28:20;34:9
incorrect (2)
19:21,25
incorrectly (2)
98:24;104:7
increase (7)
41:23;42:23;45:2;
69:10,20;91:14,24
increased (1)
60:20
increases (1)
44:16
increasing (1)
69:17
indelible (1)
5:24
independence (1)
6:4
indicate (1)
63:11
individuals (1)
29:23
inexcusable (1)
93:1
inexpensive (1)
57:18
infestation (1)
30:11
influx (1)
60:9
information (18)
8:23;9:1;10:3;20:13,
22,23;40:23;53:17,25;
56:6;63:6;70:1,19;72:7,
19;81:17;82:11;86:7
informational (1)
89:8
informed (2)
54:9;68:11
initiate (1)
26:20
initiative (1)
44:10
Inn (2)
60:8,9
input (1)
21:24
insert (3)
13:7,8;26:14
inspector (1)
46:6
instance (4)
31:17;34:12;65:25;
105:4
Instead (7)
44:6;46:15;51:15;
52:7;75:22;96:6;103:20
institute (1)
49:13
insurance (25)
38:20,23;42:1,25;
44:17;45:4;46:25;47:3;
51:9,15;54:6;63:12;
67:19;68:21,25;69:5;
70:3,14;71:8,22;72:1,2,
20;92:6;94:14
insurances (1)
53:20
insured (1)
54:14
integral (1)
101:22
integrity (1)
30:11
intends (1)
89:21
intent (2)
90:14,17
interested (3)
8:12,13;52:11
interesting (1)
75:24
internally (1)
83:6
International (8)
25:15;26:3,14;27:22;
28:12;34:21;35:3,24
into (21)
10:3;18:4;28:11;
31:21;32:21;38:15,18;
40:14;45:4;58:14;60:3;
79:8;83:19,24;84:4;
89:13;91:7;98:21;
101:19,23;105:5
invented (2)
6:11,12
inventor (2)
6:19,21
invitation (1)
88:19
invited (1)
5:5
inviting (1)
55:15
involved (4)
17:3;27:21;82:2;
106:17
issue (9)
19:8;23:2;27:23;
42:16;46:10;58:5;91:13;
97:22;101:17
issues (7)
25:22;29:18;30:13;
43:10;76:11,11;91:8
item (16)
21:21;22:12,14;23:22;
25:13;36:20;41:15,25;
42:1;52:23;63:19;65:21;
83:10;84:25;92:9;96:23
items (14)
12:1,7,10;26:16,21;
59:21;65:20;68:18;
74:24;84:22;92:23;
102:5;105:11,15

J

jail (11)
41:7,8,12;50:23;63:1,3;95:17,18;107:4,6,7
Jan (1)
6:17
January (1)
104:9
Jaslo (1)
6:16
Jason (2)
70:9;101:4
job (7)
43:22;44:4,11;55:20;75:17;77:22;95:7
John's (1)
29:4
Jozef (1)
6:18
July (5)
10:20;13:18;43:8;44:1;51:2
June (7)
3:18,20;36:24;80:23;86:17,19;106:10

K

Kathy (1)
5:15
keep (7)
34:4;38:16;79:4,5;81:22;90:20;102:10
keeping (3)
24:17;82:7;95:12
keeps (1)
32:25
key (1)
18:25
kids (1)
8:3
kind (14)
8:5;17:1,11,16;18:5,5,25;19:2,5,6;24:16;86:9;93:18;95:18
kinds (1)
95:23
King (1)
18:12
knowing (1)
77:3
known (2)
6:20;89:18
knows (1)
50:2
Knoxville (1)
7:11
Kosacki (1)
6:18
Krakow (1)
8:18

L

labor (1)
72:25
land (1)
6:21
landing (1)
101:5
landlord (2)
89:16;90:14
language (2)
51:7;59:18
Lanier (1)
53:21
large (2)
41:23;59:5
largely (1)
7:13
larger (1)
17:21
largest (2)
8:10;91:1
last (25)
7:9;40:11;41:24;43:7,19;48:14;50:8;51:5;53:3;59:8;62:6;63:23;64:16;65:11;66:7;67:20;68:10,12,15;70:10;76:20;81:18;83:10;89:6;100:9
late (1)
84:15
later (2)
18:21;21:22
law (6)
22:18;24:3;27:9;34:3;43:7;49:2
lawfully (1)
49:18
lawn (6)
72:23,24;73:9;79:13,21;102:6
Lawrence (2)
5:2;7:2
laws (1)
45:12
laying (1)
75:25
layoffs (1)
61:8
least (6)
70:6;88:23;89:17;90:1;96:5;104:8
leave (1)
108:3
leaving (1)
37:5
left (3)
76:24;99:20,22
legal (2)
28:20;46:17
legally (1)
28:21
legislation (2)
48:24;49:23
less (5)
54:11;92:1;97:9;102:19;105:5
lesser (2)
44:25;48:17
letter (1)
103:22
letting (2)
95:24;96:9
level (1)
80:4
liability (13)
41:25;42:24;44:17;45:4;46:24;47:3;53:20;63:12;67:18;68:20;70:3;72:20;92:5
librarian (1)
32:19
library (8)
12:16;28:6;32:20,24;33:5;46:3,9;66:25
license (2)
88:13;89:4
life (6)
38:19,22;43:16;71:8,22;94:5
lifeguard (1)
44:3
lifetime (3)
71:11,18,21
light (6)
6:23;49:17;101:4;103:10,11,19
lighting (2)
49:3;99:6
lightly (1)
30:17
lights (25)
48:20;49:2,5,19;50:6;63:17,18,21;64:17;68:12;99:4,5,6,8,13,16;100:24,25;101:1,2;103:6,8,12,20,23
liked (1)
69:19
Linda (1)
95:1
Lindy (1)
90:24
line (11)
41:15,25;42:1;63:19;65:19,21;81:7;83:10;92:9;105:11,15
lineal (1)
49:15
linear (1)
99:14
line-item (3)
67:3,10,16
link (1)
34:22
links (1)
66:3
list (2)
85:18;103:14
listed (6)
17:13;18:14,16;63:17,18;68:14
litigation (3)
46:18;49:23;50:1
little (10)
50:10;55:14;60:8,13;79:25,25;88:7;91:11;94:1;102:17
live (3)
76:19;77:8;89:25
lives (1)
78:25
Livingston (5)
105:17,17;106:12,16;107:1
local (1)
19:10
located (2)
88:11;89:5
location (1)
90:10
locations (1)
28:22
long (9)
54:7;55:5;57:20;66:8,12;75:13;96:11;102:10,18
longer (2)
17:13;41:9
look (20)
18:4;45:17,25;54:19,25;55:8;58:10,14;65:19;71:4;72:11;79:24;81:7;88:24;90:17;92:8;94:18,20;102:8;103:1
looked (4)
15:3,3;69:3;75:12
looking (11)
18:24;41:22;67:20;70:3;72:13;78:3;81:21;98:20;101:10;102:23;106:17
looks (1)
42:23
lose (2)
57:24;90:11
losing (1)
46:13
loss (1)
41:10
lost (2)
48:15;58:6
lot (26)
7:15;9:4;32:13,14;44:10;53:1,2,6,15;56:22,25;57:19;62:20;66:9,12;78:25;84:15;91:20;94:14;97:15;102:15,16,16;105:15;107:17,21
lots (4)
8:16;52:15;53:11;102:9
loudly (1)
12:4
love (2)
9:7;107:23
lower (1)
48:4
lowered (1)
45:3
luck (2)
9:14;90:5
Lukasewicz (1)
6:17
Luke (2)
8:25;103:13

M

ma'am (17)
9:19;12:9;13:19,22;23:24;38:25;63:24;64:5;70:8,20;71:2;72:9;73:6;83:12;85:2;90:8,23
machine (2)
13:7,15
machines (1)
15:7
Madam (2)
6:8;64:8
magnetic (2)
94:2,7
Magnuski (1)
6:10
mail (1)
12:22
main (1)
29:15
mainly (1)
17:19
maintained (2)
28:3,22
Maintenance (20)
25:15,19,23,24;26:3,8,15;27:22,23;28:12;29:3;31:23;32:1;35:25;48:1;97:2,4;101:20,22;102:19
MAJOR (8)
9:22;18:15;84:25;85:2,20;86:21;87:20,21
majority (1)
48:13
makes (7)
9:4;45:17,24,24;46:25;65:23;94:23
making (7)
29:15;38:19;46:7;55:16;65:15;67:5;74:21
man (1)
77:3

manage (7)
44:24;46:16;67:7,25;
80:2,3;105:1
management (1)
98:22
manager (1)
75:18
managing (2)
44:5;98:19
manner (1)
26:1
many (7)
13:4;69:4;73:22;
94:23;99:13;102:14;
105:3
map (2)
98:1,2
Maria (1)
84:14
marketing (2)
55:13,20
married (2)
5:15;7:8
MARTA (1)
107:10
match (2)
61:19;100:18
matching (1)
76:13
matter (1)
102:1
May (23)
5:19;6:7,9,13;14:23;
23:25;32:7;34:19;36:24;
42:19;50:25;51:1;52:17;
53:9;58:14;63:17;74:2,
12;84:6;88:12;94:18,19;
103:17
maybe (16)
17:25;70:22;73:10,11;
74:6;75:17;76:2;78:16,
17;94:3,4;96:20;97:2,
19;105:22,24
MAYOR (157)
3:2,7,17,21,23;4:3,13,
20,24;7:11;9:16,20,23;
10:9,15,19,23;11:7,12,
22,24;12:9,14;13:17,20,
23;14:6,11,21;15:12,20,
25;16:10,16;17:22;18:7;
19:17,24;20:14,24;21:2,
15;22:5,9,11,23;23:4,6,
11,21;24:13,21;25:1,11,
12;31:7,10,15,19;32:17;
33:8,10,24;35:16,21;
36:1,4,9,19,23;37:13,18,
24;38:4,14;39:2,6,9,14,
24;40:4,5;47:13;53:13;
60:21;61:1,10,13,17,20,
25;62:7,11,22;63:3,15;
64:4,8,11,14,19,23;65:3,
12;66:10,15,17;67:22;
68:2,20;69:22;70:24;
73:6,19;77:21;78:22;
79:11,14,17,20;80:8,18,
19;81:11;84:10,17,21;
85:2;86:5,12,20,22;87:1,
4,9,19,22;88:3;93:16,16;
96:18;99:2,23;100:1;
103:8;104:12,20;106:3,
10,14,22,24;107:5,8;
108:7,11,21
Mayoral (1)
78:2
mayors (1)
7:17
Mayor's (12)
41:24,24;42:2;47:1,9;
63:13,22;64:2,9,16;
67:19;68:12
McCAIN (72)
3:9,11,13,15;4:5,7,9,
11;11:14,16,18,20;
14:13,15,17,19;16:2,4,6,
8;21:7,9,11,13;23:13,15,
17,19;25:3,5,7,9,11;
29:6;33:7,9;34:23;
36:11,13,15,17,22,23;
38:6,8,10,12;39:16,18,
20,22;40:2;55:21;56:9;
79:11,19;80:10,12,14,
16,18,23;81:1;87:11,13,
15,17;106:24;108:13,15,
17,19
McLENDON (24)
9:19;22:8;25:14,16;
27:1,11,16,20;28:14;
29:2,7,17;30:25;31:5,9,
14;32:2;33:22;34:6,24;
35:5,9,15;83:20
mean (36)
4:21;12:24;13:12;
18:9;28:14;49:25;57:1;
58:6;61:23;62:17,24;
64:20;65:3,20,24;66:2,4;
68:5,18;75:8;77:14;
84:1;86:14;92:4,8,10,19,
24;93:1,2,4;96:19;99:12,
24;100:11,23
meaning (1)
17:20
means (3)
49:4;64:1,1
mechanical (1)
29:21
Medicare (1)
105:4
meet (3)
71:4;78:8;91:18
meeting (16)
18:16,23;23:25;24:7;
40:10;51:5;52:13;55:12;
56:12;58:3;59:15;66:24;
71:2;91:9;105:21;
108:24
meetings (4)
5:6;24:3,4;97:19
meets (1)
30:4
members (4)
7:18;47:17;59:2,3
ment (3)
40:8;43:20;96:17
mentioned (7)
54:4;55:10,11;58:17;
75:11;103:7;107:9
ments (1)
42:11
met (2)
7:18;31:3
meter (2)
12:22;57:16
meters (2)
13:2,5
Metro (1)
60:11
Michelle (1)
70:10
might (2)
81:9;98:5
mile (3)
94:8,9,15
millage (3)
40:22;91:14,23
million (5)
7:23;40:21;52:2;
77:10;99:21
Milton (1)
29:4
mind (3)
49:4;63:11;90:20
mine (2)
6:21;51:7
minutes (2)
3:18,20
missed (1)
107:3
mistaken (1)
63:17
Mitigation (3)
16:15,19;20:19
modifications (2)
10:5,7
Monday (3)
44:21;71:3,6
money (26)
15:3;47:8;50:1;52:7;
53:2,2,8,16;54:11;56:14,
21;57:19;65:16;67:5;
74:14;75:8,9;77:16,17;
78:6,10,16;94:12;97:9;
103:19;104:5
moneys (7)
45:14,16,18,19;52:2;
53:10;105:10
month (7)
5:19,21;10:10;12:24;
86:1;101:12;103:10
monthly (3)
51:14;77:17;85:21
months (6)
10:14;48:18;77:25;
89:22;100:9;107:10
months' (1)
51:18
more (16)
21:17,18;27:24;32:13,
14;34:19;49:9;56:6;
67:23;72:19;80:7;82:15;
83:18;100:10,16;102:16
morning (1)
71:6
Mosely (1)
43:21
most (6)
5:22;7:23;10:17;
16:22;41:4;42:19
motion (22)
3:19;11:4;14:3;15:17;
20:15,17,18;22:6,24,25;
24:10;35:22,23;37:19,
20;39:3;73:5,8;79:12;
86:6,8;108:7
move (4)
25:25;37:10;63:11;
101:21
moved (4)
26:9;39:5;47:3;108:9
moving (1)
101:23
much (15)
7:7;9:6;10:10;16:21;
17:21;27:14,24;31:25;
68:24;90:15;92:7;95:12;
98:12;102:13;105:13
Multijuris- (1)
16:14
Multijurisdictional (1)
20:19
municipal (8)
7:12,20;9:8;31:21;
45:8;51:12,13;73:12
municipalities (3)
70:5;81:8;105:18
Municode (2)
34:20,22
must (1)
95:19

N

name (3)
12:3;29:1;60:11
named (1)
6:5
name's (1)
88:9
NAPPO (7)
12:6;88:6,10;90:7,8,
12,20
N-a-p-p-o (1)
88:10
nation (5)
5:25;6:23,24;31:4;
55:25
nations (1)
5:23
nation's (1)
6:2
nature (1)
55:19
Naval (1)
5:12
necessarily (2)
84:5;86:14
necessities (1)
26:23
need (34)
17:5;39:2;43:10;
50:25;51:1;55:8,16,19;
56:6;58:8;59:16;61:2;
62:10,14;63:9;64:2;
65:2,22;68:15;75:6,9,21;
76:2,9,15;79:23;80:2;
82:20;83:1,1;93:7;
105:8,11,15
needed (2)
37:8;96:12
needs (14)
8:22;17:1;24:19;
28:12;30:22;57:14;
58:19;62:20;75:11;78:9;
82:8;85:9;100:16,17
negative (1)
101:18
new (13)
26:13,16;44:18,20;
62:5;71:25;75:17,17;
83:17;99:6;101:2;103:4;
104:10
Newell (1)
60:1
news (1)
8:15
next (18)
14:21;16:11;23:22;
25:13;36:20;44:21,24;
52:4;61:5;71:3,5;72:1;
77:16,24;80:20;82:13;
84:25;85:6
nice (2)
102:8;103:3
night (1)
52:14
nights (1)
78:2
Nods (2)
10:18;99:9
nonprofit (1)
95:16
nonrestricted (1)
99:25
note (2)
11:25;98:16
noted (1)

90:2
notice (1)
69:9
noticed (2)
102:23;107:12
notified (1)
19:1
November (3)
22:15;23:2;50:13
nuisance (1)
30:2
number (14)
42:4,12,13,16;52:23;
59:2;61:19;62:24;72:10;
91:25;100:23;102:24;
103:6;106:17
numbers (13)
46:25;65:23;74:4;
76:13;91:7,12;92:10;
97:6;100:14,15,18,19;
105:7

O

o0o- (1)
108:25
Oakcliff (4)
93:11;95:1;97:13;
101:4
object (1)
65:13
objective (1)
30:22
obviously (3)
10:2;61:3;62:15
occupancy (1)
30:6
occupied (2)
30:13;89:3
occupy (1)
89:21
occur (1)
18:17
o'clock (1)
71:3
odd (1)
59:2
off (9)
57:17;66:24;68:15;
75:25;99:12;101:25;
102:2;104:19;107:14
offer (1)
50:23
office (5)
28:3;37:6;78:6;99:20;
106:9
officer (2)
5:12;6:19
official (2)
39:3;89:19
officially (1)
89:18
offset (1)
69:19
often (1)
75:25
oil (1)
6:14
old (4)
22:12;26:16;36:20;
101:1
once (3)
21:23;53:3;101:12
one (42)
5:15,22;8:1;13:6;
14:25;27:4,5;28:3,5,21;
29:14,18;31:14;34:12;
40:1,9;42:12;43:2;
47:23;51:4;55:10,11;
57:9,9;58:21;59:4;
65:19;66:6;69:5;70:25;
72:13;75:17;79:25,25;
81:20;82:14;83:23;94:1;
97:18;98:3;100:17;
103:5
ones (3)
33:5;81:21;99:6
one-time (5)
50:19;51:22;52:20;
76:19;77:8
online (10)
32:9,14;34:25;35:1,1,
4;54:9;57:2;69:3,6
only (17)
8:1;19:8;41:7;43:22;
47:2,11,14;51:17;71:16;
77:10;78:4;88:21;91:3;
92:19;94:9;106:22,24
onto (1)
45:10
Open (6)
24:3,4,6,20;32:13;
106:17
Opening (4)
23:22;24:2,2,11
operate (1)
101:13
operations (1)
40:18
opinion (4)
43:3;66:21;81:24,24
opportunities (2)
54:24;72:22
opposite (1)
84:7
option (1)
92:21
optional (3)
38:20,23;71:14
options (1)
52:12
order (4)
30:23;31:3;35:6,10
ordinance (16)
19:21;21:16,23;22:1,
17;23:1;24:11;25:21;
28:2,13,17;33:6;34:9;
36:22,25;37:21
ordinances (4)
26:6;28:11;45:12,12
organi- (2)
75:15;80:3
original (1)
99:5
Orr (4)
90:24,24;98:10,13
Others (5)
6:9;45:7,24;83:1;
97:24
ought (1)
103:12
ourselves (2)
32:6;67:3
out (68)
8:5;12:23;21:23;
26:12,21;27:9;33:3;
40:1;41:4;42:6;46:3,11;
47:8;49:25;50:12;51:8;
52:7,11;55:15,18;56:13,
15,16;57:3,4;64:1,2,17,
17;68:22;69:1;72:5,23;
73:2,8,23;74:22,25;75:2,
5,15;77:4;79:12;81:16;
82:10,12;89:7;90:13;
91:2;92:7,16,17;95:8;
97:3,7;99:1,11;101:7,17,
21;102:7;103:9,10,14,
15,25;104:6;105:4
outdated (1)
26:22
outgrown (1)
78:5
outs (1)
50:20
outside (5)
24:6;41:9;47:6;48:6;
83:7
Outsourcing (3)
54:24;55:1;72:22
over (14)
11:25;42:25;47:21;
49:24;55:22,25;59:14;
68:22;70:15;84:16;
91:17;101:7;102:13;
105:2
overall (1)
80:3
overpass (1)
103:8
overstated (1)
45:18
overtime (7)
46:23;105:20,24,25;
106:3,5,19
own (7)
6:1,3;43:20;56:18;
94:11;97:5,8
owner (2)
27:9;89:20
owners (2)
88:18;104:7

P

PA (1)
12:5
Pachuta (61)
3:13,14,19;4:9,10;
10:16;11:6,18,19;14:5,
17,18;15:19;16:6,7;20:6,
16;21:11,12;22:25;
23:17,18;24:12;25:7,8;
26:24;29:13;31:6,11;
35:23;36:15,16;37:23;
38:10,11;39:8,20,21;
69:21,24;70:18,21,25;
71:7;72:15,18;73:7;
74:2;80:14,15;81:3;
83:9;84:14,19;85:22;
87:15,16;106:8;108:9,
17,18
page (5)
52:4;65:25;66:2,6;
76:9
pages (2)
66:8;85:12
paid (2)
104:6;106:18
paper (1)
57:5
Park (3)
44:13,18;73:13
parks (4)
12:16;43:21;73:13;
98:23
part (12)
8:15;16:22;19:1;
42:20;65:14;81:19;82:6;
88:15;101:5,22;105:25;
107:3
part- (1)
61:8
participating (1)
19:10
particular (3)
60:17;74:22;76:2
parties (2)
88:23;89:11
partner (1)
5:10
parts (1)
106:4
part-time (3)
44:5;46:16;72:12
pass (4)
20:7;96:17,18,24
passed (1)
48:24
passing (4)
19:18;46:24;54:16;
91:18
passports (1)
9:3
pass-through (4)
45:6;82:17,18;83:7
past (5)
67:2;84:16;102:23,24;
103:2
paths (1)
102:17
patrol (1)
41:14
patrons (1)
46:9
pay (16)
47:15;49:4,9;50:5;
51:14,16;58:2,18,22;
77:18;92:14,16;94:7,15;
95:25;104:3
paycheck (1)
101:12
paychecks (2)
40:15;77:18
paying (5)
53:7;71:10;94:13;
99:7;103:10
payment (2)
45:24;52:25
payroll (3)
57:21,23;58:4
PDK (1)
101:5
Peachtree (1)
103:5
penalty (1)
105:2
pencils (1)
40:16
pending (1)
70:1
Pennsylvania (1)
6:15
pension (3)
52:25;71:12,13
people (31)
5:23;7:23;8:9;17:3;
18:25;27:8;30:20;32:6;
35:1,4;40:15;54:14;
57:2;65:17;72:12;76:24;
78:3;79:1,7;84:2;91:20;
92:4,20;93:3,22;94:5;
95:24;96:1;97:8;101:7;
107:24
per (7)
10:10,12,13;49:15;
84:24;99:13;103:10
percent (2)
61:16;91:23
perform (1)
58:16
perhaps (3)
32:23;71:22;94:2
perk (1)
97:17
permissive (2)

25:21;29:10
Permit (2)
21:16;83:23
permits (1)
81:19
person (1)
52:14
personal (3)
9:9;89:4;102:11
personnel (18)
17:12;41:12,18;42:10,13,15;50:19,21;51:4,19;52:17,21;61:6,8,11;69:14;76:20;79:9
pertaining (1)
88:14
petroleum (1)
6:16
phase- (1)
50:19
phase-out (2)
50:20;51:4
photographs (1)
56:3
physically (1)
89:12
picked (2)
59:21,25
pickup (2)
59:17,19
picturing (1)
50:20
piece (2)
88:8;98:5
piecemeal (1)
80:6
Pierce (5)
46:5;48:8;55:6;81:13,20
Pierce's (1)
81:24
pillar (1)
5:13
pioneer (2)
6:17,19
Pitney- (1)
12:21
Pitney-Bowes (2)
12:18;14:4
Pittman (2)
4:20;48:12
placarded (2)
30:12;31:18
place (9)
17:18;18:24;29:3;37:1;65:18;93:7;95:13;98:6;104:2
Plan (10)
16:15,20;17:16,18;18:20;19:13;20:19;52:25;71:12,20
planet (1)
5:23
planning (4)
16:11;19:10;48:7;104:4
plant (1)
107:13
plants (3)
47:19,24;102:16
Plaza (1)
60:10
pleading (1)
86:14
please (25)
3:3,8;4:4,17;8:24;11:13;12:2;14:12;16:1;23:12;36:10;38:5;39:15;44:11;50:11;68:7;69:23;79:18;80:9;86:3,6;87:2,10;104:11;108:12
Pledge (2)
3:3,5
plus (1)
44:12
pm (2)
80:24;108:24
podium (1)
12:3
point (1)
84:1
Poland (8)
4:15,25;5:18;6:24;7:14,16;8:14,23
Poland's (2)
5:2;7:22
pole (1)
103:19
Poles (3)
6:6;101:2;104:2
police (13)
9:21;19:14;41:3,13;42:6;43:17;61:11;89:7,14;91:10;95:5,6,9
policy (3)
24:2;49:13;105:23
Polish (9)
5:23,23;6:2,16,18,19;7:17;8:8,10
Polish-American (2)
6:10,12
politics (1)
7:12
polls (1)
8:7
p-o-l-l-s (1)
8:7
pool (4)
43:25;44:3,22,24
population (1)
8:10
portion (2)
12:7;16:12
position (5)
7:13;75:17;76:2,22;100:11
positions (3)
75:17;76:3,5
positive (3)
94:23;98:16,22
possible (4)
24:20;53:19;58:18;61:8
possibly (3)
41:16;42:25;59:25
postage (2)
13:2,4
potential (1)
74:5
potentially (1)
29:24
potholes (1)
7:19
Power (4)
49:8;57:16;103:15,25
practical (1)
95:19
practicality (1)
19:15
practices (1)
57:11
preaching (1)
66:11
premium (2)
69:5;71:23
prepare (1)
62:8
prepared (1)
19:9
present (6)
7:1;22:2;40:9;58:22;85:4,7
presentable (1)
55:17
presentation (1)
4:18
presenting (4)
4:24;40:6;61:1;97:1
presently (1)
75:3
presumably (1)
65:25
pretty (1)
16:21
previous (4)
10:5;46:23;47:20;93:14
previously (2)
40:5;64:10
priest (1)
6:12
print (2)
49:2;57:3
printed (1)
40:1
printing (1)
104:14
Prior (2)
60:17;106:22
priorities (1)
65:17
prisoners (1)
41:9
private (2)
51:9;103:22
privilege (3)
4:24;9:7;83:15
PRO (138)
3:2,7,17,21,23;4:3,13;7:23;8:8;9:16,20,23;10:9,15,19,23;11:7,12,22,24;12:9,14;13:17,20,23;14:6,11,21;15:12,20,25;16:10;17:22;18:7;19:17,24;20:14,24;21:2,15;22:5,9,11,23;23:4,6,11,21;24:13,21;25:1,12;32:17;33:8,10,24;35:16,21;36:1,4,9,19;37:13,18,24;38:4,14;39:2,6,9,14,24;40:4;47:13;60:21;61:1,10,13,17,20,25;62:7,11,22;63:3,15;64:4,11,14,19,23;65:3,12;66:10,15,17;67:22;68:2,20;69:22;70:24;73:6,19;78:22;79:14,17,20;80:8,19;81:11;84:10,17,21;86:5,12,20,22;87:1,4,9,19,22;88:3;96:18;99:2,23;100:1;104:12,20;106:3,10,14,22;107:5,8;108:7,11,21
probably (14)
27:4,4;28:5;54:13;57:16;60:13;82:25;83:1;91:21;94:5;97:5;101:6,6;102:17
problem (4)
33:21;74:19;91:16;101:14
problems (3)
29:22;76:12;98:6
procedure (1)
32:19
Procedures (6)
23:23;24:11;96:13;97:21,24;98:8
process (9)
29:19;30:1,7,8,15,16;31:24;81:14;100:9
processes (1)
56:20
proclamation (3)
4:14,25;7:2
procure- (1)
96:16
procurement (3)
96:11,13,21
professional (3)
55:17;68:13;75:21
program (1)
10:2
programmable (2)
57:13;92:25
project (4)
70:11;98:13,14,15
projected (7)
15:9;40:20;41:1;60:18,22;61:14;69:17
projecting (1)
92:1
promote (1)
98:21
promoting (2)
8:12,13
prompting (1)
13:13
promulgated (2)
25:21;27:5
propagated (1)
42:2
properties (5)
25:23;29:16;55:14,18;102:21
Property (31)
25:15,19,22;26:3,8,14;27:22,23;28:12;29:3,20;30:6,9;31:17,23;32:1;33:7;34:21;35:4,24;49:16;55:20;56:1,4,8;88:10,15,18;89:3,5;103:23
proposal (2)
19:16;40:6
propose (1)
62:4
proposed (5)
40:17,17,23;52:5;86:18
proposing (1)
51:24
provided (2)
26:2;67:8
provider (3)
54:6,20;57:22
providers (1)
54:3
provides (1)
55:2
providing (2)
71:15,22
provision (1)
24:16
PTO (1)
41:17
public (17)
11:25;12:7,10,16;24:2;28:22;48:12;59:15,23;70:10;76:16;82:7;83:21;88:5,22;90:2;92:24
Pulaski (2)
6:2,4
purchase (1)

78:7
purchasing (6)
36:21;37:2,7,22;
56:19;106:15
purely (1)
102:11
purpose (1)
51:24
pursuing (1)
90:10
pushed (1)
18:6
put (18)
22:3,14;26:5;34:25;
42:14;47:3;53:14;56:5,
5,6;66:17;70:22;72:23;
73:2,8;79:12;84:14;94:7
putting (4)
55:18;57:1;73:23;93:6

Q

QOL (1)
79:4
qualify (1)
17:6
Quality (2)
43:16;94:4
quarter (2)
12:25;13:1
questionable (1)
35:2
quick (1)
66:25

R

radius (1)
94:10
Rafuse (1)
5:11
raised (1)
60:7
raising (3)
43:24;84:4;91:14
Ramon (2)
43:21;44:22
ramps (1)
101:25
rate (1)
40:22
Rawlins (7)
95:1,1;96:20,22,23,25;
97:2
Raymond (1)
90:24
read (5)
22:17;26:4;33:16;
83:16;95:23
readily (2)
95:21,25
reading (4)
22:12;24:1;25:17;
36:21
readings (1)
12:22
real (1)
93:20
realization (1)
66:25
realize (2)
69:21,24
realizing (1)
71:24
really (23)
5:7;17:1;18:24;25:24;
40:16;41:15;42:13,18,
22;44:10;45:2;50:2;
58:15;62:15;71:5;82:1;
83:4;86:9;89:9;91:11;
93:9;95:7;107:18
reason (4)
47:2;68:17;71:14;
76:15
reasonable (1)
82:7
reasons (2)
24:18;29:15
rebalancing (1)
75:14
rebuild (1)
78:7
rebuilt (1)
8:18
rec (1)
12:16
recall (1)
36:24
receipt (1)
86:15
receive (2)
85:11;86:9
received (2)
46:23;60:18
recent (1)
10:17
recognized (1)
46:21
recommend (1)
34:25
recommendation (1)
24:8
recommended (1)
10:5
record (7)
12:4;24:17;83:21;
88:9,15;89:1;90:2
records (1)
106:17
recreation (1)
44:15
rectified (2)
43:10;58:9
recycling (1)
59:24
redo (1)
18:3
reduce (3)
58:25,25;83:22
reduced (3)
42:9;43:18;47:17
reducing (1)
104:2
reduction (6)
44:19;61:9;68:10;
72:20;74:3,11
Reed's (1)
53:13
refer (1)
60:5
reference (3)
28:19,20;33:1
references (1)
34:21
referendum (1)
22:13
referring (2)
61:6,7
refinery (1)
6:14
reflected (2)
8:7;79:8
regarding (6)
20:23;22:13;24:1;
58:21;81:4,17
regards (1)
68:25
relations (1)
97:7
relationship (2)
50:24;89:15
relative (1)
98:16
relatively (2)
8:14;57:18
relevant (2)
9:1;26:15
relief (5)
17:7;19:2;89:2,18;
90:3
remarks (1)
94:23
remember (3)
60:11;78:2;97:22
reminded (1)
51:5
remove (2)
21:21,22
removed (5)
42:1;63:4,12;99:2,3
removing (1)
22:7
renewing (1)
13:1
rent (1)
47:23
rental (2)
102:20,24
rented (2)
44:8;102:23
renting (1)
44:6
replace (3)
48:15;103:15,25
replaces (1)
75:2
replacing (1)
46:15
report (8)
19:8;24:7;53:23;
85:25;89:8;100:2,4;
104:11
reporter (1)
72:6
reports (5)
9:17;12:15;76:12,13;
87:22
representative (1)
7:10
representatives (1)
5:16
Republic (1)
5:18
repurposing (1)
41:7
request (2)
37:1;46:4
requested (1)
84:23
requesting (1)
69:10
requests (2)
104:13;106:18
require (5)
8:2;17:17;22:5;28:2;
59:6
required (1)
82:20
requirement (1)
99:12
requirements (1)
91:8
requiring (1)
16:23
research (1)
51:10
reserves (3)
40:15;52:1,7
residence (1)
89:21
resident (1)
79:2
residential (2)
59:12;81:25
residents (5)
32:5;43:24;59:20;
79:4;95:22
resilient (1)
5:22
resolution (5)
16:19;20:2,3,7,20
resolved (2)
30:14;101:16
resources (2)
19:5;67:8
response (19)
4:1;11:10;12:12;14:1,
9;15:15,23;19:24;21:5;
22:21;23:9;24:24;35:19;
36:7;37:16;38:2;39:12;
87:7;88:1
responsi- (1)
42:20
responsibility (1)
65:15
responsible (1)
48:1
restaurants (1)
107:22
restricted (2)
99:25;101:11
result (4)
13:10;41:10,12;76:18
results (2)
74:11;79:9
retail (1)
22:13
retain (1)
26:16
retire- (1)
43:19
retirement (7)
43:1;52:12,14,19,24;
71:20;81:2
retiring (1)
46:14
revenue (12)
40:24;52:6;60:22;
61:15;62:6,24;63:1,4;
69:19;83:9;84:5;91:25
revenues (9)
40:13,20;50:17;60:19,
20;61:24;62:3;69:18;
91:23
revenue-stream (1)
43:23
review (15)
19:11;38:15,18;54:3;
55:3,4;56:11,24;57:10,
21;67:11,16;69:6;81:13;
82:12
reviewed (4)
27:2;55:23;59:11;
100:2
reviewing (8)
45:6,21;53:22;54:1;
55:7,8,9;56:8
reviews (2)
67:4;82:3
revision (1)
85:13
revisions (2)
85:5;86:17
revoke (1)
30:6

RFP (16)
72:5,23;73:2,8,23;
74:22,25;75:2;79:12,21;
82:10,12;97:3,7,9;
101:21
RFPs (2)
75:5,20
Richard (1)
103:4
riding (1)
107:10
right (19)
16:18;27:10;34:6;
50:4;57:14;58:2;61:20;
67:14;69:24;70:13,15;
74:13;76:16;92:22;93:9,
15;94:21;96:4;106:8
rightly (1)
66:8
right-of-ways (1)
73:14
Rivera (7)
9:25;10:1,11,18,22;
11:2,23
Road (5)
59:14;60:1;88:11;
90:4;103:5
roadway (1)
49:3
Roche (71)
3:15,16;4:11,12;
11:20,21;14:19,20;16:8,
9;21:13,14;23:19,20;
24:15;25:9,10;27:6,14,
18;28:25;32:11;33:12,
15;36:3,17,18;37:9;
38:12,13;39:5,22,23;
60:24;61:2,18,23;62:2,9,
13,23;63:8;65:1,9,14;
66:13,16,19;67:12,24;
68:3,8;75:4;79:23;
80:16,17,20,25;83:13,
25;85:17,23;86:2,8,13,
24;87:17,18;100:6;
108:19,20
Rockdale (1)
48:23
rocks (1)
102:17
rode (1)
8:2
roll (14)
3:8;4:4;11:13;14:12;
16:1;23:12;25:2;36:10;
38:5;39:15;79:17;80:9;
87:10;108:12
room (4)
76:25;78:3,4;91:21
rough (1)
72:10
roughly (2)
7:22;54:12
rules (1)
25:25
run (7)
57:20;67:6;101:2;
102:10,18,18;104:19
running (1)
57:15
rush (1)
5:3

S

safety (2)
42:12;95:11
salaries (2)
47:18;74:15
salary (8)
41:19;44:18,20;46:22,
22;48:10;51:18;58:25
Sale (1)
55:21
Sales (5)
22:13,14;23:3;48:25;
49:1
same (4)
54:10;70:12;97:16,25
Sandy (4)
29:4;83:16,17,19
sanitation (4)
59:10,10,12;92:13
sat (2)
76:25;77:1
Savannah (1)
6:4
save (6)
15:2;57:19;74:13;
94:12;102:3;103:19
saves (1)
9:4
saving (1)
43:23
savings (20)
13:9,13;15:9;44:2;
46:21;48:16;52:3,6,19;
53:19,24;54:2;56:12,17;
70:6;71:1,25;74:5,6;
100:3
saying (3)
96:7;104:25;107:13
scanning (1)
43:8
scary (1)
77:11
scenario (1)
17:17
scenery (1)
8:16
scenes (1)
8:20
schedule (1)
55:5
scheduled (1)
80:21
scheduling (1)
44:4
science (1)
6:7
seat (1)
59:1
Second (25)
3:21,22;11:6;14:5;
15:19;20:25;21:1;22:12;
23:4,5;24:12;25:17;
36:2,3,21;37:23;39:7,8;
73:18;79:15;83:24;
86:20;87:1,3;108:10
secret (1)
68:4
secretary (1)
9:5
section (3)
26:9;33:1,19
sections (1)
73:11
security (3)
8:2,5;46:10
seeing (4)
9:8;65:4,9;103:1
seemed (1)
19:13
seems (5)
21:17;53:4;73:17;
83:13,16
sell (1)
94:4
selling (1)
56:1
send (1)
103:21
sending (2)
49:10;101:20
sense (1)
57:15
sent (1)
104:13
sentiments (1)
8:8
separation (1)
37:11
serious (2)
27:12;34:17
seriously (1)
54:19
served (1)
5:11
service (6)
54:20;71:14;74:23;
79:22;82:11;104:18
services (12)
47:6,7,9;48:6;50:23;
55:1;68:16;72:23;73:9;
75:2;79:12;82:20
set (5)
19:3;21:22;24:2;
30:21;81:19
sets (3)
99:5,7;100:25
setting (1)
58:2
settled (1)
49:25
several (10)
5:5,19;10:4,4;30:10;
74:24;91:17;102:20;
107:10,24
severe (1)
29:16
Shanahan (5)
102:4,4;107:3,7,9
share (1)
8:21
sharpened (1)
40:16
sheet (13)
15:10;40:3;59:8;
60:17,22;62:3;64:20,24;
65:13,24;66:3;67:23;
69:23
sheets (2)
56:13;66:23
Shield (1)
54:10
short (1)
102:18
shorted (1)
95:14
shortfall (3)
50:18;51:23;69:25
shot (1)
75:1
show (2)
56:14;62:20
showing (2)
69:25;104:5
shows (3)
59:19;61:14;77:15
side (1)
77:6
Sign (3)
86:12;94:7;104:25
signed (1)
55:23
significant (1)
6:6
signs (3)
55:14,18;94:3
similar (2)
30:1;102:15
simple (3)
57:1,5;81:22
single (7)
18:4;40:7;41:15;
65:21;79:2,3;103:9
site (6)
35:6,8;55:19,24;56:7,
10
sitting (2)
58:4;101:1
situation (4)
26:5;44:3;84:6;95:16
situations (2)
30:20;89:16
six (5)
15:7;59:1;85:12;
100:9;103:6
size (1)
102:15
skipped (1)
11:25
slash (1)
41:16
slashing (1)
41:15
slight (2)
44:19;48:2
slip (1)
4:23
slower (1)
48:19
small (2)
6:16;102:4
smaller (1)
13:15
Smith (1)
53:21
software (1)
10:2
Solutions (2)
9:24;11:5
some- (1)
18:10
somebody (5)
30:3;50:5;77:2;98:18;
103:13
someone (2)
51:7;75:13
sometimes (4)
32:15;75:12,16,20
somewhat (1)
48:18
soon (2)
58:23;82:13
sorry (6)
13:8;51:2;64:22;68:8,
21;79:20
sort (8)
19:4;21:23;45:21;
46:25;49:21;88:21;
97:23;98:1
sorted (1)
90:13
space (2)
95:17,19
speak (3)
12:2,4;98:11
special (1)
50:11
speech (1)
78:21
speeding (2)
45:11;86:10
spend (3)
12:25;57:25;75:8

spending (4)
12:23;70:13,16;75:9
spends (1)
45:19
spent (5)
7:15;78:11,12,12;
89:22
spinning (1)
57:17
spoke (1)
98:19
spoken (1)
17:8
spouse (1)
71:17
spread (8)
42:25;44:17;60:17;
63:13;65:24;66:2;67:19;
68:22
Springs (4)
29:4;83:16,17,19
staff (6)
20:8,21,23;41:12;
58:15;74:3
stage (1)
50:4
staggered (1)
100:23
stances (1)
28:1
stand (1)
3:3
standardizes (1)
25:22
standardizing (1)
32:12
standing (1)
78:4
standpoint (1)
79:24
start (5)
44:1;49:18;91:2;93:6;
104:1
started (4)
49:10;66:20,24;105:4
starting (3)
44:21;81:7;91:2
state (26)
5:16,17;7:10;12:3;
22:18;26:1;29:9,12;
34:1,2,8;40:12;43:6,7;
45:12,12,14,20;55:25;
60:9;85:14,15;86:17;
94:17;96:3,6
state-compliant (1)
43:13
state-mandated (1)
45:9
statements (1)
95:4
state-required (1)
47:21
states (1)
34:10
statewide (2)
15:4;94:15
stating (1)
33:18
station (2)
59:14,22
status (3)
88:17;104:11,17
step (7)
35:2;93:15,20,22;
94:21,24;98:22
Stephen (1)
88:19
Stephens's (1)
44:20
Steven (1)
16:13
stick (2)
104:25;105:9
still (21)
8:14;48:1;49:25;
50:18;62:11,19;69:25;
71:11,17,18;72:12;
81:13;89:5;91:7;92:2,
16;95:10;101:17;104:8;
106:20;107:13
stop (1)
107:12
stopped (1)
106:5
Store (2)
35:12;107:21
stormwater (5)
16:13;60:5;69:9,17,20
straight (1)
82:16
straightening (1)
75:15
stream (1)
91:25
streams (2)
40:24;52:6
Street (21)
48:20;49:2,5,17,19;
50:6;63:17,18,21;64:17;
68:12;99:4,5,5,7,13,16;
100:24;101:3;103:5,8
stretched (1)
95:8
Strickland (10)
16:13,16;17:24;18:18;
19:22;20:10;21:16,17;
60:6;69:9
strong (1)
8:14
struc-tural (1)
30:11
structure (2)
29:24;30:19
struggle (1)
98:4
Stuart (1)
98:9
study (1)
19:10
stuff (1)
107:17
subjective (1)
31:2
submit (1)
17:9
submitted (2)
20:4;57:10
submitter (1)
22:6
substantial (1)
27:24
substituted (1)
31:15
substitutions (1)
34:11
such-and-such (1)
33:19
sufficient (1)
28:21
suggest (5)
26:18;27:4;57:7;
59:16;103:24
suggested (5)
42:17;48:17;74:25;
79:7;83:4
suggestion (2)
74:21;94:2
suggestions (1)
93:8
summary (6)
30:8;62:17;65:13,22;
67:4;76:9
summer (1)
44:6
Sunday (2)
22:13;23:3
supply (1)
94:16
support (5)
24:18;32:10,16;71:21;
78:19
supposed (6)
43:8;49:4;53:23;71:4;
104:24;105:6
sure (16)
20:12;32:24;33:22;
40:15;46:7;58:1;59:24;
64:25;65:16;67:5;69:12;
82:20;84:4;92:12;98:4;
103:12
surprise (1)
6:13
Susan (1)
97:13
sustainable (1)
82:3
sweetest (1)
5:16
switching (1)
47:21
system (7)
10:4;12:5;19:2;57:21,
23;58:8;101:5

T

table (2)
77:1;79:12
talk (4)
7:18;91:20;103:7;
107:19
talked (2)
70:9,11
talking (9)
52:9;58:4;61:16;
75:13;78:24;101:24,25;
102:1,6
task (1)
43:4
tasked (1)
40:6
tasks (1)
58:16
tax (5)
40:22;48:25;49:1,23;
60:7
Tech (1)
35:11
technical (1)
47:6
technically (2)
49:3;53:7
telling (2)
77:2;91:5
TEM (136)
3:2,7,17,21,23;4:3,13;
9:16,20,23;10:9,15,19,
23;11:7,12,22,24;12:9,
14;13:17,20,23;14:6,11,
21;15:12,20,25;16:10;
17:22;18:7;19:17,24;
20:14,24;21:2,15;22:5,9,
11,23;23:4,6,11,21;
24:13,21;25:1,12;32:17;
33:8,10,24;35:16,21;
36:1,4,9,19;37:13,18,24;
38:4,14;39:2,6,9,14,24;
40:4;47:13;60:21;61:1,
10,13,17,20,25;62:7,11,
22;63:3,15;64:4,11,14,
19,23;65:3,12;66:10,15,
17;67:22;68:2,20;69:22;
70:24;73:6,19;78:22;
79:14,17,20;80:8,19;
81:11;84:10,17,21;86:5,
12,20,22;87:1,4,9,19,22;
88:3;96:18;99:2,23;
100:1;104:12,20;106:3,
10,14,22;107:5,8;108:7,
11,21
tenant (1)
89:15
terminate (1)
51:6
Texas (1)
6:15
Thanks (2)
99:18;103:3
that'll (1)
78:17
therefore (1)
75:1
thermostat (2)
90:21;92:25
thermostats (1)
57:13
thinking (1)
79:2
third (1)
103:18
thirteen (1)
10:13
though (7)
32:7;42:23;48:21;
89:3;92:15;105:7;
106:13
thought (7)
28:5;50:5;55:24;
67:20;88:20;95:18;
96:21
thousand (6)
45:23;53:1;61:21;
73:17;94:6;107:24
thousands (1)
108:3
threatened (1)
89:12
three (12)
8:1;13:6;18:19;43:10;
48:15;51:18;74:7,9,16;
84:22;85:13,14
three/four (1)
17:25
throughout (2)
29:11;63:13
ticket (4)
27:19;45:8,11;86:10
tickets (1)
62:1
tie (1)
59:3
timers (1)
61:9
times (4)
84:2;95:7;105:20;
108:1
tion (1)
32:22
today (2)
4:14;88:16
together (1)
66:18
token (1)
6:25
told (2)

40:12;70:14
tomorrow (2)
50:11;104:15
ton (1)
84:15
tonight (8)
5:4,9,22;12:5;40:9;
75:11;96:17;101:16
took (6)
18:23;46:3,11;67:18;
78:6;106:9
tool (1)
30:18
top (1)
101:1
tornado (1)
18:10
total (3)
15:7;73:15;99:24
touch (1)
8:25
tough (1)
100:6
tourism (1)
8:13
tow (1)
104:17
toward (1)
98:7
town (4)
6:16;84:4;107:18;
108:5
towns (1)
102:15
tracking (1)
41:2
tractor (1)
56:5
trade (1)
8:13
traffic (1)
5:3
train (3)
107:11,25;108:2
training (1)
43:18
transactions (2)
85:18,24
transfer (5)
45:13,19;52:7;59:14,
22
transferred (1)
51:25
transparent (1)
32:5
Treasurer (2)
37:1,22
treasury (6)
37:5;85:14,16;86:21,
22,24
treat (3)
76:21,23;77:7
Tree (2)
21:16;60:6
trees (1)
102:13
truck (2)
43:5,13
true (1)
91:12
trued (1)
91:7
truthfully (1)
89:14
try (7)
17:14;50:5;54:20;
55:16;59:17;72:15;
105:9
trying (9)
15:1;55:4;74:13;80:6;
81:16,21;89:23;95:21;
98:3
Tuesday (1)
40:11
turn (5)
22:16;54:16;85:20;
97:5;99:11
turnaround (1)
93:14
turned (3)
101:4;104:23;105:5
tweaked (1)
94:1
tweaking (1)
57:25
twentieth (1)
102:12
two (19)
12:17;14:24;26:25;
41:14;42:13;44:8;47:16;
50:22,25;52:23;59:4;
89:11;95:5,10;97:25;
99:4,7;100:25;108:1
typically (1)
82:16

U

ultimately (1)
26:13
unacceptable (1)
54:11
unanimously (1)
57:22
unbalanced (2)
78:14,15
unburning (1)
103:20
under (17)
16:11;22:12;31:20,22;
36:20;46:17;47:4,9,23;
59:12;63:22;64:9;68:13;
72:14;89:16;92:2;98:23
undertaken (1)
79:1
underwriters (1)
70:10
unemployment (4)
51:9,11,15,20
unfit (3)
29:20;30:9,24
unfortunately (9)
43:11;48:23,25;49:11,
16;51:15,21;57:22;
71:17
unincorporated (1)
49:14
unless (2)
68:13;89:13
unsafe (1)
29:22
up (45)
9:8,17;12:3;16:11;
17:25;19:3;21:19;22:1;
26:6;29:16;42:7;43:17;
45:25;49:12;53:2,5,16;
54:8;56:23;58:3;59:21,
25;60:23;62:20;65:23;
67:17;68:19;69:9;74:3,
10;81:9,19;82:24;84:2;
91:7;92:20,25;93:3,4;
97:17;98:11;100:18;
102:10,16;104:9
upcoming (2)
13:21;85:15
update (3)
17:10;18:3;88:16
updated (7)
17:2,2,14;20:13,22,22;
60:22
updating (2)
18:22;19:19
upkeep (1)
25:23
upon (7)
20:3;27:25;30:8;67:7;
81:19;82:1;83:5
use (7)
10:3;27:3,5;30:17;
33:11;51:8;65:16
used (1)
94:5
uses (1)
12:21
using (2)
57:5;95:17
usually (2)
85:17;94:23
utilized (1)
34:16

V

vacant (2)
55:13,20
vain (1)
6:1
value (1)
54:22
values (1)
91:22
vans (1)
44:8
various (3)
42:3;52:3;55:1
vehicle (2)
92:6;94:17
vehicles (2)
92:3;94:20
verified (1)
18:5
version (1)
10:17
versions (1)
98:2
versus (4)
62:6;65:11;66:6;96:9
vest (1)
6:13
vested (4)
53:8,9,11;71:13
Victor (1)
7:10
Victory (1)
5:20
violation (3)
27:24;28:17;83:14
Virtually (1)
103:9
visas (1)
9:3
visit (1)
53:18
visiting (1)
8:23
volatile (1)
18:9
vote (6)
22:15,16;23:2;50:12;
78:15;85:11
voted (1)
78:14
voters (1)
23:2

W

waiting (1)
70:1
waived (1)
83:17
walk (1)
101:17
walked (2)
8:3;40:3
walkie-talkie (1)
6:11
wall (1)
57:17
War (2)
6:20;8:17
warned (1)
52:15
warranted (1)
74:15
Warsaw (2)
8:11,17
Washington (1)
8:22
way (12)
18:8;21:24;65:19;
67:1;81:18;82:21,21;
98:20;101:8,9;103:20;
104:1
weather (1)
18:8
Web (6)
35:6,8;55:19,24;56:7,
9
Wednesday (3)
52:14;53:17;80:22
week (5)
4:25;5:1;70:10;82:13;
89:6
weekend (1)
57:16
weeks (2)
51:20;84:16
welcome (1)
4:16
weren't (1)
67:3
western (1)
7:24
whatnot (1)
102:17
what's (5)
13:12;74:12;76:6;
100:20;104:17
whenever (1)
88:21
wherever (1)
8:4
whole (4)
9:4;77:23;83:25;
100:21
whomever (1)
20:5
widely (2)
29:11;34:16
Wilson (27)
12:19,20;13:6,11,14,
19,22;14:23;15:11;
38:21,25;48:3;53:23;
58:20;60:21;63:21,24;
64:5;69:15;70:8,20;
71:2;72:9,17;83:12;
85:25;86:4
Wilson's (1)
40:7
winters (1)
48:18
wish (1)
32:13
within (4)

13:2;18:25;43:5;61:7
without (5)
12:5;79:1;95:10;
106:5,15
woman (1)
77:3
wondering (1)
104:4
Woodwin (1)
59:14
work (22)
20:21;46:6;62:18;
66:9,12,23;67:1;76:8;
77:5;83:15;84:13,15;
90:25;91:12;92:16;
93:23;98:10;99:19;
103:3;105:14,16;107:25
worked (1)
71:16
workers' (1)
70:4
working (6)
21:19;48:17;50:24;
72:4;103:16,18
workmen's (2)
41:20;53:19
works (9)
12:16;48:12,24;59:15,
23;70:10;92:24;96:5,9
world (5)
5:25;6:20,24;8:11,17
world's (1)
6:14
worry (1)
47:7
worse (1)
77:2
worst-case (1)
17:16
worth (1)
96:5
writer (2)
75:21,22
written (2)
82:22;97:20
wrong (1)
83:19

X

X-amount (1)
103:10
Xerox (6)
12:18;14:22;15:1,3,5,
18

Y

y'all (1)
102:20
yard (1)
80:2
year (31)
13:11;41:24;43:19;
44:24;49:12;50:8,10;
53:3,4;63:23;64:16;
65:11,11;66:7,21;68:10,
13;71:16;72:1,25;77:13;
81:18;83:23,24;85:3,4,6;
86:17,18;91:3;103:7
years (13)
7:9,11,15;17:25;18:1,
19,21;49:24;86:25;
94:16;97:23;99:11;
102:25
year's (6)
62:6;67:21;68:15;
83:10;85:15;96:4
year-to-date (2)
40:25;63:5
yesterday (3)
38:21;51:10;60:18
you-all (2)
88:8;102:6

Z

zation (1)
75:16
zational (1)
80:4
Zeglen (1)
6:11
zero (1)
78:23
zoning (3)
16:12;19:21;48:7
zoo (1)
44:7