

[Bruce Smith:](#) The March 19th advisory committee meeting. Bruce Smith in attendance.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Dan Thiede.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Art Schmelter.

[Matt Begley:](#) Matt Begley.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Ken Dunlap.

[Rich Evans:](#) Rich Evans.

[Stacy B.:](#) Stacy Bockbrader.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay, and we're waiting for Royal, and obviously Miss Sunshine is here, Stacy, so okay. First item is approval of the minutes, the February 11th meeting.

[Matt Begley:](#) I'll make that motion.

[Rich Evans:](#) Second.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay. Motion Matt, seconded by Rich. All in favor?

[ALL:](#) Aye.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Aye. Okay, so hopefully we're going to remove a couple items off this list today, so the first item is the status, selling tank A repairs.

[Dan Thiede:](#) They're done.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay, and everything is working fine? Everything is-

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah. We're just making adjustments. That's all.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Tweaking it, so it's done.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Super. Get that one off the list. Next item is the status of variation base and A diffuser upgrades.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Still working on it. Putting out fires, but we're plugging away as best we can.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay. All right.

[Art Scmelter:](#) What's the timeframe for that?

[Dan Thiede](#): I can't give you a timeframe, because the grid collector conveyor went down, so now I've got to fix that.

[Art Schmelter](#): Got it.

[Bruce Smith](#): We'll talk about that. He's really focused now on getting the things done pre asset management plan, so there was-

[Dan Thiede](#): Yes, and that's coming up-

[Bruce Smith](#): A \$9,000 savings. Later on we'll talk about that, that he's ... That's number-one priority, to get that done in time.

[Participant](#): Okay.

[Ken Dunlap](#): You have no diffusers in house?

[Dan Thiede](#): We have everything that we need to do the job. It's ...

[Participant](#): Time.

[Dan Thiede](#): Time.

[Bruce Smith](#): They ordered valves, new valves for those, and they have the, what do you call those? The diffusers themselves.

[Dan Thiede](#): The diffusers, yeah. The sleeves.

[Bruce Smith](#): Next item was status of water booster pump repairs.

[Dan Thiede](#): Done and online. Working like a champ.

[Art Schmelter](#): All right.

[Bruce Smith](#): That's another one of the list, so okay. Next item is review of water quality, accountability, requirements. I know we've talked about this a couple times. Anything you want to add Dan, or you ...

[Dan Thiede](#): Not right now, no. Nothing.

[Bruce Smith](#): Is there any questions or anything, any of that?

[Art Schmelter](#): Not from me.

[Bruce Smith](#): All right. Okay. Status of the unaccounted for water and leak search.

[Dan Thiede](#): We're still going at it. We had the people that sold the unit to us come in, because I wanted to verify that we were doing everything correctly, and apparently we were misled, and we now are not seeing any leaks. Let's put it that way, but we were misled on how to read it, so now we know what we're doing. If I have any questions I can call them back. It's no charge. Come in and do whatever we got to do, but those units are phenomenal, what they can do, after I had that meeting, but it's ongoing. We haven't found anything, as of yet. We're over halfway through village four, so-

[Art Schmelter](#): You still have the loss.

[Dan Thiede](#): We're still showing the losses, yeah.

[Art Schmelter](#): All right, so this revelation or information didn't change any of the-

[Dan Thiede](#): Not as of yet, no.

[Art Schmelter](#): Numbers, okay.

[Dan Thiede](#): Not as of yet.

[Art Schmelter](#): Dan, is there a way of putting a flow meter at the beginning of the trunk line, going into each village, or village at a time? Can you grab-

[Dan Thiede](#): You're talking big bucks. To dig it up, you're talking big bucks.

[Art Schmelter](#): All right.

[Ken Dunlapt](#): Yeah, you can't do it from the surface.

[Dan Thiede](#): No. It's got to be put in line, and you're talking about shutting people down.

[Bruce Smith](#): This should eventually find the leak, and they're ... I think before we did that we probably get a consultant to come in, or something, and see if they needed some help. This is one item that we'd known about for a long time, but it was we're busy putting other fires out.

[Art Schmlerter](#): Absolutely.

[Bruce Smith](#): They're on it at this point.

[Art Schmelter](#): You're trying to put it in this process.

[Dan Thiede](#): Yeah.

[Bruce Smith:](#) This piece of equipment is the same piece that they used in Hackettstown, and it worked very well, so part of it's going to be the experience of the people that are using it, so it's really good, and Dan did this on his own. To get the company and to get them to get a little bit of training, so they knew what to do, so, to me, that's a very positive thing.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Well, also there were a couple of instances in the last year, and so where we thought we had it. We thought we had the solution when the meters weren't reading correctly. We thought it might be the contractors, and it may have contributed too.

[Bruce Smith:](#) They are continuing to work on that. I was here yesterday, and Stacy had come up with another list of some things to check. These were zero reads, so we're focusing on situations where there was some thought that maybe some of these meters are backwards, but it's a little late to figure that out at this point, since they've been changed for a long time, but there's also some zero reads that have maybe not been checked on a regular basis, so there are some positive things going on there. I don't think that's the major part of the problem. There's a few here and a few there, but it does add up to revenue, and we want to make sure we're getting at it the right way.

[Rich Evans:](#) It's certainly not making up for the amount of water that we're losing. There's a lot of water missing.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yes, there is.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Did we get the opportunity to fix or change the tube in the mall?

[Dan Thiede:](#) No. We haven't been up there yet.

[Art Schmelter:](#) All right, because we're going to owe those people some money. The, is it two meters? One is the barbershop and one is the real estate-

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Yeah, because-

[Bruce Smith:](#) Why do you think that we're going to owe them money?

[Art Schmelter:](#) They're paying flat rates and using nothing, or virtually nothing, so they'd be on minimum.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Yeah, but the only we'd owe them money is if they requested those meters to be removed.

[Art Schmelter:](#) They did, and I know it from over two years ago.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Stacy?

[Stacy B.:](#) Yes sir?

[Dan Thiede:](#) I never heard of that. I never heard that.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Wow! Yes sir. I'll call you sunshine every day.

[Dan Thiede:](#) I know they haven't been replaced. That much I know, but I didn't know there was a request to have it done.

[Art Schmelter:](#) I put it in, over two years ago.

[Stacy B.:](#) Yeah, he did.

[Bruce Smith:](#) To get them removed?

[Stacy B.:](#) To get them removed.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Absolutely.

[Stacy B.:](#) Just before Wayne left.

[Bruce Smith:](#) All right, but we're still billing them?

[Stacy B.:](#) Yes.

[Bruce Smith:](#) All right.

[Dan Thiede:](#) I never saw anything, a work order come down.

[Art Schmeltert:](#) It was in November of the year before last.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Write it up again. It'll get done.

[Stacy B.:](#) Okay.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay. Well, great. Thanks for bringing that to-

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah, I did not know. I didn't see anything come across down there, so unless Wayne hid it somewhere, I'm not going there.

[Stacy B.:](#) It might still be on the desk, yeah.

[Dan Thiede:](#) I haven't gotten it all cleared yet, but I'm getting there.

[Stacy B.:](#) I know you haven't. That's why I'm saying-

[Bruce Smith:](#) No. Desk is pretty clean.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Every time Bruce comes back it's getting cleaner.

[Bruce Smith:](#) It's cleaner, yeah. Okay. Status of asset management plan, so the council's authorized that plan, and as one of the benefits or one of the pluses I guess, is that staff has coordinated a savings of about \$9,000 by doing some of the work themselves, including the fire hydrants, the water valves. Anything else?

[Dan Thiede:](#) Hydrants, valves, pictures, tags. That's about it so far.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay, so that's a focus, and I think there's an April 19th deadline.

[Dan Thiede:](#) I thought that was a March deadline, but I'm not positive.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Well, they gave you the March deadline.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah, they gave me the March deadline and we didn't meet it, so-

[Bruce Smith:](#) April 19th, is it?

[Dan Thiede:](#) Okay.

[Bruce Smith:](#) I talked to Paul yesterday, and he mentioned April 19th, and getting a copy of this to us by a week before, so to solicit any comments. We can make revisions, get it. I think that's a DEP deadline, it has to be.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Well, we can possibly make that one, because all we have left is the mall and the village, and the tags are done. Then we have pictures, then we have valves to GPS, and that's it. That part of it is done.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay, so obviously it takes some time to incorporate your thing, so that's why you made the earlier deadline, so just keep plugging away at that.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay. Next item is a status of final electrical repairs to the STP. This is related to the fire that happened a year ago now, right? March, it was in March.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Yeah.

[Bruce Smith:](#) The latest is we have a proposal from the electrical wires and some panel maker-

[Dan Thiede:](#) I don't know who that, I don't know who the panel maker is.

[Bruce Smith:](#) I forget the name of the company. They tried to clean them, but there's too much carbon, and so what I did with this estimate, which was 65 grand. What I did with this estimate was forwarded it to the insurance company, because I want them to bless it before we go ahead and spend the money, and find out they give us one of these, so I have the phone numbers. I'll be calling them later today, to get an answer on that. Try to get an answer on that. Any questions?

[Mat Beagly:](#) They didn't come out with an adjuster, look at this, and then say, "We're giving you 70 grand, go get estimates?"

[Bruce Smith:](#) Not that I'm aware of, and the thing that-

[Matt Begly:](#) That's surprising. It seems like it's backwards.

[Matt Begly:](#) Usually make the claim, and then they'll come.

[Matt Begly:](#) Yeah, we make a claim. They'll send an adjuster out. They'll say it's going to be 70 grand, and they write a check.

[Bruce Smith:](#) They might have. I just don't remember, and I'm not here all the time, so it could be that they sent somebody out to take a look, and the thing that annoys me the most was the fact that we spent a lot of time and effort to get the company out to come clean it, and we did do a portion of the panel that was really totally burned up. The problem I have with this is that the company that does the cleaning should have a sense as to whether it's going to work or not, and he came out, did the cleaning, and during that time we have to put, we've got to rent generators to get everything powered up. You can't just shut the treatment plant down for a day, so we went through all that effort, and then in the end the cleaning wasn't even close to getting it. There's some sort of a resistance thing, or-

[Dan Thiede:](#) They did a pod test.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Pod test, and it's not even close, so, to me, they should have known that. I'm not an electrician, but I made my feelings known to wires, and he apparently passed it along, so, anyway-

[Art Schmelter:](#) Who did the work, wires?

[Dan Thiede:](#) No, wires did the electrical stuff that needed to keep the plant running, and then they had another outfit, came in and did the cleaning, and what they did is they did the beginning of the pod test, was done before the cleaning. Then they did another one after the cleaning, and the difference, literally, I think it went from a four to a six, instead of 100, would be perfect.

[Art Schmelter:](#) From a four to a six.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Yeah, so ...

[Bruce Smith:](#) You might, I'm not sure he's totally correct in the numbers, but the point was it wasn't even close, and I thought that the company that did the cleaning might have fleeced us. I don't know. I'm not an electrician. I don't know, but the point is he should be able to look at and say do you know what? You can clean this, but it ain't going to work, and we didn't get that. We didn't get that answer, so now here we are, and it's a big dollar number to replace everything that's there. I made my feelings known to Dale Durling at wires, and we're at where we're at. I'm going to call later this morning, to the insurance company, to try to get an answer, and I sent them that stuff February 25th maybe, and we haven't gotten-

[Art Schmelter:](#) All right. Should be time to review it.

[Bruce Smith:](#) We haven't gotten an answer yet.

[Rich Evans:](#) We did make a claim at the time, correct?

[Bruce Smith:](#) Yeah, claim's been done. What I didn't want them to do was close out the claim, so I've been interacting with Annmarie on this, so we wanted to keep it open. I did talk to one person on the phone a couple months back about this thing. Leave it open, until we get this thing resolved, so we've been pushing to get the estimate. The mayor's chimed in a few times on this thing, to get the estimate. Get this thing working, and so that's where we are now. Hopefully, have better news to report next month.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) What are we doing in the interim?

[Bruce Smith:](#) We're using it the way it is, and it's usable, but the question is a safety issue, and there was some additional work that needed to be done to test the transfers, switching the generator, and the company said, "No. We can't deal with this resistance, this bad here," and so I'm almost looking for one or two things. Either the insurance company will come out and say do you know what? There's no problem with this whatsoever, and they bless it. If they bless it, okay. If something happens we've got their blessing, or they're going to come out and say you need this thing to be done, and they're going to pay for it, so one or the other, because neither one of us, maybe no one here, is an electrician that's going to understand these things, so that's where we're at. I just left on here water system pressure and meeting with Baker.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Well, from what I heard, Baker's buying the new [CLA valves 00:15:28]. I gave them the number for Wydel so I guess we're going forward with that. There was a new report. Did you get the new report that Paul sent out from John, his guy, about the pressures? I forgot to print it out.

[Bruce Smith:](#) I did, now that you mention it.

[Dan Thiede](#): Yeah, but they are going to get the valves, and then we're going to install them.

[Matt Begley](#): How many are there?

[Dan Thiede](#): There's an eight inch and a three inch I think, on that one.

[Rich Evans](#): That's for going up the hill?

[Dan Thiede](#): Up Baker, yes. We're going up the hill, because the [Ross valve 00:16:07] does not react fast enough, so the CLA valves are doing way too much work.

[Rich Evans](#): Okay. Are there Ross valves still at the bottom coming off of-

[Dan Thiede](#): Yeah.

[Rich Evans](#): Are they going to replace those?

[Dan Thiede](#): Those are the ones that are getting replaced. The other ones are already CLAs.

[Participant](#): They are?

[Dan Thiede](#): Yes.

[Participant](#): Okay.

[Bruce Smith](#): Okay.

[Dan Thiede](#): Actually, should I go into Redtail Tell them about that, or not yet?

[Bruce Smith](#): Well, that's down below.

[Dan Thiede](#): Okay. All right.

[Bruce Smith](#): With PODs maybe I should have put this next to each other, but I didn't.

[Dan Thiede](#): That's all right.

[Bruce Smith](#): Next-

[Ken Dunlap](#): Old business, with regard to reversibility of the valve that's up there, have we solved that?

[Dan Thiede](#): The valves already have the reversibility access. Both of them do.

[Ken Dunlap](#): Yeah, but I understood we ran into some problems.

[Dan Thiede](#): No. That problem was because of the Ross valve.

[Ken Dunlap](#): Okay, so that's an issue?

[Dan Thiede](#): It's not an issue. It's not right now.

[Bruce Smith](#): Unless you're talking about something different.

[Ken Dunlap](#): I'm talking about being able to reverse the flow.

[Dan Thiede](#): Yeah, that was put in a while back. When Wayne was here that was his role.

[Participant](#): Yeah, I know, but there's a question about whether that was going to work.

[Dan Thiede](#): It works. It does work.

[Bruce Smith](#): Next item, status of personal licensing. Since the last meeting Adam has gotten approval to sit for his license for the [T1

[Dan Thiede](#): T1.

[Bruce Smith](#): That's going to be next week. I think it's the end of-

[Dan Thiede](#): Yeah, the 28th. I'm hoping they're both not gone on the same day.

[Bruce Smith](#): Rich is waiting to hear you.

[Dan Thiede](#): He put in for his [S1 00:17:42]. He still hasn't gotten his letter yet, but they're known to come within a week.

[Bruce Smith](#): Then Dan is-

[Art Schmelter](#): I'll be glad to help you Dan.

[Bruce Smith](#): I'm sorry, what Art?

[Dan Thiede](#): I'll tell you what-

[Art Schmelter](#): I'd be glad to come down and help him if both guys are gone.

[Dan Thiede](#): I'll take the help.

[Art Schmelter](#): Unless it's on a Tuesday.

[Dan Thiede](#): Have you ever shoveled that kind of stuff?

[Art Schmelter:](#) Actually, yes. I was in the service, remember?

[Dan Thiede:](#) On top of it, may as well let you know, I'm going to go sit for my [W2 00:18:13] next round.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Good job.

[Dan Thiede:](#) I passed the class, so I'm just waiting for the next round. I get my paperwork in and sit for that.

[Bruce Smith:](#) I'm very happy and thankful that council has adopted some policies that encourage these guys to go get their licenses, so it's a real positive thing and it has their intention. Anyway, that's progress and things are going well with that. Status of alarm dialer and phone line replacement. Dan, do you want to, updates?

[Dan Thiede:](#) Well, we have had the main pump station hooked up to the Verizon call out now, so it's no longer on the auto dialer. It covers the wet well, the pumps, the screen, the charts. I can see everything on my phone now. We're also in the process, and it's also linked into the internet. It worked, so if we need to we can figure. We can actually go online and see this stuff also, and we're also going to look into ... Well, we're doing it piecemeal, but we're going to get it all. Everything eventually will all be hooked up to it. Water plant, booster pumps, everything.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Is this the same system that we condemned three years ago?

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah, but we're doing it-

[Bruce Smith:](#) Well, it's not the same system.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Well, I know.

[Bruce Smith:](#) It's a replacement system.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah.

[Bruce Smith:](#) I see, for whatever it's worth, this goes back. It's actually more like four years. It was when United were still here.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Oh, that. Okay.

[Bruce Smith:](#) That's what he's talking about.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Okay. All right.

- [Bruce Smith:](#) No, he's not talking about from last year.
- [Art Schmelter:](#) This wasn't there. No, this wasn't from last year. This is from way back.
- [Bruce Smith:](#) United, they bought a system and I think they paid 40 grand for the system, and it never worked, and no one really was paying attention, and then when the township took over in late, no early-
- [Participant:](#) '15.
- [Bruce Smith:](#) Mid '15, right?
- [Ken Dunlap:](#) '15, yeah.
- [Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah, I came in, in April. Wayne started in March.
- [Bruce Smith:](#) Yeah, early '15. One of the things that was stated from the beginning when Wayne took a look at this thing was where is the system that supposedly was paid for and worked? I think he had somebody check it out. It was never, no one really got it operational.
- [Art Schmelter:](#) Yeah, we had very little. It's not very little. We had communication with Verizon that went nowhere, because I remember sitting here at this table. Well, we tried to call Verizon, they didn't answer. We called Verizon, I remember.
- [Ken Dunlap:](#) Yeah, it took them a long time to get.
- [Art Schmelter:](#) Took them a long time, but nobody ... It was we'll make a phone call today and drop it, and then the next meeting I called them. Nobody pursued it, went after it, and we were paying 10,000 a month or something a month rent for the system, or line usage, in addition to that 40,000 that you mentioned, and it was just a useless system.
- [Bruce Smith:](#) Yeah, there's still the system was supposed to replace those lease lines. The lease lines are about 80 bucks for each side of the line, which brings us to just this last month. We had, with the system that was installed for the pump stations, there were three lease lines, three sets of lease lines that we got rid of at savings of \$480 a month.
- [Art Schmlter:](#) Fantastic.
- [Bruce Smith:](#) Dan and I worked on those, and took care of that thing. I made a couple phone calls to Verizon, and the first time they said, "Yeah, I'll email it to you." They didn't email it.
- [Art Schmelter:](#) Okay. Same old thing, right?

[Bruce Smith:](#) They didn't email it. I called again and I got somebody good, and she emailed it. I said I'll hold on the phone while I wait for the email, and then I got the email, and then I followed that up, and they followed up, and then we haven't seen the next bill yet. At least I haven't seen it, when-

[Stacy B.:](#) I have.

[Bruce Smith:](#) You have, okay.

[Stacy B.:](#) Yeah, it was \$2,900 and it's down to maybe 14 now, so I have seen-

[Art Schmelter:](#) Progress.

[Stacy B.:](#) Progress, yes.

[Bruce Smith:](#) We're working on that little by little, as we get this system updated. There's your savings, is every lease line is \$160 a month, so if you get both sides of it, so we're working on that. This last piece that they did was a little under \$6,000 total, so we have more to go and are still using the Verizon phone lines for a couple of things that Dan and I talked about yesterday, and he's going to be setting up to get the guy to come in, and see what we can do. Hook those up, so what we have now should be able to incorporate those, but they're software involved and some other things that we'll see. We'll see how this works out, but we're working on it and so far Dan has been very happy with what's been done, at a pretty reasonable cost. Lead and copper, sampling plan has been submitted, but maybe no news is good news from DEP.

[Dan Thiede:](#) I haven't heard anything yet. Last I heard, it went to ... Well, they did get back to me. There was a couple pieces that needed to be signed that weren't signed, so I got that back to them within a day, and now it goes over to the technical group, and from there I'm waiting.

[Bruce Smith:](#) How long ago was that now?

[Dan Thiede:](#) That was about three weeks ago.

[Bruce Smith:](#) All right. Okay.

[Dan Thiede:](#) I know the technical group is not one of the fastest groups out there.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) They probably have a lot of them.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Is that Charlie?

[Dan Thiede:](#) No.

[Bruce Smith:](#) No, it's not Charlie. No.

[Dan Thiede:](#) No. Charlie's very happy with us. I'm going to keep it that way.

[Participant:](#) Good. He's a good guy.

[Dan Thiede:](#) He is.

[Participant:](#) Are all the reports being submitted on time? Your monthly reports.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah.

[Participant:](#) Okay. All right.

[Dan Thiede:](#) We've had no issues with the water-

[Bruce Smith:](#) You've got to ask the question, yeah.

[Dan Thiede:](#) We've had no issues with our sewer or our water. In fact, Rich got the first zero for E. coli.

[Participant:](#) Really?

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah, using the PAA. You saw that, less than one?

[Bruce Smith:](#) No, I didn't. Recently?

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah, that was the one he did last week, was the less one.

[Bruce Smith:](#) I didn't see, yeah.

[Dan Thiede:](#) We're there. We're getting there.

[Art Schmelter:](#) All right. Remember it being a problem in the past.

[Dan Thiede:](#) No, haven't had a problem. We haven't even been close. In fact, the plant's coming around. We're having some issues with settling, but it's coming right back around.

[Art Schmelter:](#) It's good, because it doesn't draw attention to you.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Exactly.

[Rich Evans:](#) Keep your name off that list. Really.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Absolutely.

- [Dan Thiede](#): Well, they seem to like me down there. They're helping me out every little chance they can.
- [Art Schmelter](#): I would think that Charlie would be one of the leaders of that helping out.
- [Dan Thiede](#): He is.
- [Art Schmelter](#): It's good to have him back.
- [Bruce Smith](#): I would agree with that, and I think the point is they see that we turned a corner, and they're going to do everything they can to help you, and make sure you complete that turn.
- [Art Schmelter](#): That's what you want.
- [Bruce Smith](#): Okay. Next item is the status of the water storage tank feasibility study. First of all, I'd like to thank this committee for urging that this be done, and I was told yesterday that it went to council, and it was approved at the last meeting, so the study's underway.
- [Art Schmelter](#): Good.
- [Bruce Smith](#): There were some questions about it, but it's underway, so when I talked to Paul, I think he has a meeting tomorrow with his staff about this thing, and they're going to be moving forward, and there's some interaction between him. Obviously, once we get a copy of that you'll get copies as well.
- [Matt Begley](#): They're going to do the study?
- [Bruce Smith](#): Yeah, they're doing the study.
- [Ken Dunlap](#): That includes looking for a site for the second tank?
- [Bruce Smith](#): Yeah. There was some interaction. When I got the draft I made some comments and he had some revisions, so there's a couple things. One is the site. One is evaluating the cost versus the repair of the existing tank. Two is the site, of where to site it. A third part is the elevation, whether we can lower this a little bit, to lower the pressure, and I think that's about all I can think of, so Matt, you seem to be surprised that they got the work. Are you?
- [Matt Begley](#): I don't know. I look at stuff like that, and, to me, it looks better to have somebody independently looking at this, versus your engineer. I'm just surprised. I'm surprised that it wasn't given to somebody independently to look at, that doesn't have a skin in the game type thing.
- [Art Schmelter](#): It's too close to home.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Well, the only thing I would say is I've experienced this as well. There's almost nothing that they can do that they're not going to have skin in the game, so typically, what the engineers do is they'll go out to manufacturers and they'll get them to do the freaking work, and they get them to provide an estimate, but the difference here ...

[Bruce Smith:](#) Also, one other item in there was the size of the tank. What size tank do we need? There's DEP guidelines that take a look at that, and fire flow situations, so in your case you don't really have any industrial. You have some commercial, but other than that it's residential, and you also have backup power in the wells and the booster pumps, so those have a big plus, because there's a lot of systems that don't have backup power for all the supplies. In your case, you do, so you probably would need less. Now, whether you size it to be less than a half million, that it is now, I don't know, but those are things to take a look at with the cost, so-

[Matt Begley:](#) Was this study with a price not to exceed X amount of dollars for them to do it?

[Bruce Smith:](#) Yeah.

[Matt Begley:](#) Okay.

[Bruce Smith:](#) I think it was \$7,500 maybe.

[Matt Begley:](#) Okay, so it wasn't just he goes off and does his work.

[Bruce Smith:](#) No. There was a detailed proposal, and I'd be happy to share that with you. I'll make sure I'll get it out later today.

[Matt Begley:](#) That's fine.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Anyway, it's being worked on. When I talked to Annmarie there were just some, council didn't remember anything about this study that we had. We had a company called Mumford-Bjorkman, who did, MBA, who does these things nationwide, and they came in at \$3,000-some-dollars. I think I might have shared that report with you guys.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Yeah, and we already had a copy of that report.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Council didn't remember that, but they were reminded, and they have a lot going on. It's not just Water & Sewer, so, anyway, it was approved and they're working on it, and I don't know how quickly it's going to get done, but we'll report back on that each month, as it comes up. I'll keep it on there, so next item is the [PRBs 00:30:55].

[Art Schmelter:](#) Matt, can you give me one of those agendas? I only printed so far.

[Participant:](#) You need bigger paper.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Yeah, let's go. Thank you.

[Bruce Smith:](#) PRBs, Dan and I have talked. We've talked about these things. We're going to continue to work on them, and now is the time to bring up Redtail.

[Dan Thiede:](#) All right. Guys got a call last Friday. Matt's guys called me.

[Matt Begley:](#) Sorry.

[Dan Thiede:](#) No, it's all right. Hey, I'm glad you did. No, I'm glad you did.

[Matt Begley:](#) Those are calls you don't want to get.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Redtail, the top cover for the Ross valve, the gasket blew out, so we had a leak in there, so we had to shut that down, so that eight inch is shut down. We're now relying on the CLA up on the top of the hill, Cardinal North, for fire protection, which I don't even have a thought to think that it's not going to work, so we have, since we were going to do that one anyway. That was the next one do, but it definitely didn't hold up, so-

[Ken Dunlap:](#) That'll be a CLA we'll put in.

[Dan Thiede:](#) That'll be a CLA that's going in. We're going to do both the two and the eight.

[Rich Evans:](#) Another good reason to replace all those valves with the new one.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah.

[Matt Begley:](#) He was proactive, because on Monday he came in, before Friday. He came in on Monday and said we're going to be doing this. We're not sure we have to close the road. We talked about it. Friday we're calling [inaudible 00:32:23]

[Dan Thiede:](#) Luckily, it was only a small leak.

[Art Schmelter:](#) How many more Ross valves do we have in our system?

[Dan Thiede:](#) I don't have the page with me, but there are still quite a few. We have 13 clays in the system, and if I'm not ... I'm going to take a wild guess. One, two. Hold on, one, two, three, four, five. I'm going to say about 13 or 14 more.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Okay. All right. Is that part of the 28, or am I thinking the wrong valve?

[Ken Dunlap:](#) No, I think that's part of the original 28.

[Art Schmelter:](#) If it was 28 valves that we had in here, okay? That three years ago we're going to replace them, and now you are. You're doing fine. I'm saying that was an-

[Stacy B.:](#) Is this blowing your mind Art?

[Art Schmelter:](#) What's that?

[Stacy B.:](#) This is blowing your mind.

[Art Schmelter:](#) It is. It was one of our emergency items, that we had to set up a plan to replace these, and we said we'd do what, five a year or something? Because-

[Ken Dunlao:](#) Yeah, that was the plan for-

[Art Schmelter:](#) Of the cost of these valves.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) We were going to replace them all at once.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Okay, which three years we did emergency use only, so I'm glad you have a plan Dan.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay, so Stacy has a requisition that we talked about yesterday for three valves. One's an eight inch, and I think there are two, two inch.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Two, two inches, yeah.

[Bruce Smith:](#) At the last meeting I think we talked about the two inch. The problem with the eight inch is mainly we need Harrington or somebody to come in and do the work. In many cases we need to replace the manholes, but the two inch, which serves the day to day needs of our customers, we can probably do on our own and are a lot less money, so we're going to work. We're going to continue to work on that, and the PO is going to out today, you think Stacy?

[Stacy B.:](#) Which one?

[Bruce Smith:](#) For the Harper controls, with the ...

[Stacy B.:](#) Mm-hmm (affirmative), yeah.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay. All right, so-

[Stacy B.:](#) Was that the one we were waiting for? The big, the one in the back-

[Bruce Smith:](#) Well, we were waiting for Dan's blessing and Dan was way, and then-

[Stacy B.:](#) Yeah, we were supposed to talk to him about that. That was-

[Art Schmelter:](#) Again?

[Stacy B.:](#) The requisition-

[Dan Thiede:](#) My son got married.

[Stacy B.:](#) Was that the one that was the \$3,000 one?

[Bruce Smith:](#) Yeah, I think so.

[Stacy B.:](#) Yeah, that's in the file.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay, and I think we're waiting to make sure that there's enough capital to cover that. There should be, but the budget's not adopted yet, so I don't know how.

[Stacy B.:](#) No. I spoke with Jim last night. He's still like, "Let me see."

[Bruce Smith:](#) All right. Okay. You did talk to him?

[Stacy B.:](#) Yeah. We'll figure it out.

[Bruce Smith:](#) All right.

[Matt Begley:](#) You have a requisition for one eight inch and two, two inch.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Yes.

[Matt Begley:](#) The eight inch is going to be the one on ...

[Dan Thiede:](#) Redtail.

[Matt Begley:](#) On Redtail, but you're not going to have to dig it up.

[Dan Thiede:](#) According to the contractor. He says we got the spec sheet on the CLA valve if we take all the piping off of it, which I talked to Bob and he said that's not a problem. Just take it all off, and we just drop it down and in, and then they'll move it over to where it has to go.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Is this manhole bigger than the other ones?

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah, the inside. When you remove the manhole and the riser from the manhole, the opening there is big enough that you can drop it down in. They're going to have to cut two steps off of the ladder, but then they'll put them back in. They'll put new steps back in, but it's cheaper than digging up that whole row, because that's a deep one.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Absolutely.

[Dan Thiede:](#) This way, we're hoping we can just do it this way. Get it in, and then ...

[Bruce Smith:](#) Once we're sure of the capital budgets in place we'll-

[Stacy B.:](#) I'll push them today.

[Bruce Smith:](#) I have an email to hem in on the budget in general, and I submitted some information to him a couple weeks ago, and he didn't, hasn't gotten back to me yet.

[Stacy B.:](#) Well, I worked with Kathleen last night, and she said let's put this over here for Jim, and have him review it. Figure it out, so I'm going to talk to him again today and tell we discussed this, and we need to have-

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay, so clearly this committee and just our discussions, there's a focus on these things and everyone's on board with replacing them, so I didn't ask this question yesterday, but is there any of those unmentionables out there this winter yet? Have we seen anything? Leaks?

[Dan Thiede:](#) No. I haven't seen anything. This ground is bleeding water. I don't know if I'm going to see a leak. We've checked all the storm drains. They're running like you wouldn't believe.

[Bruce Smith:](#) The point is we haven't had breaks, at least that we're able to find.

[Dan Thiede:](#) No. Not that I'm aware of. If we do have a big break I'm not seeing it with the booster pumps.

[Rich Evans:](#) You wouldn't know either.

[Dan Thiede:](#) I will say this much. With the new pump that was put in, when that pump runs it only pumps for nine hours, so it's cut the pumping time down by almost five hours, being that everything is new.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Yeah, so if you see it increase you know you've got a problem.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah, that's what I'm looking at, and I did make the suggestion to Bruce, that we possibly look into redoing the other pump. Just the pump, not the motor. Motor's fine. Just the pump, but that was only a thought.

[Bruce Smith:](#) The booster pump.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Where was this at?

[Dan Thiede](#): At the plant.

[Art Schmelter](#): Oh, at the plant?

[Bruce Smith](#): Yeah, the booster pump.

[Dan Thiede](#): Yeah, the booster pump. Yeah.

[Art Schmelter](#): Bruce, can I back up a second?

[Bruce Smith](#): Sure.

[Art Schmelter](#): Any chance-

[Dan Thiede](#): No. Raise your hand.

[Ken Dunlap](#): Show that on a report.

[Dan Thiede](#): It will.

[Participant](#): Any chance of looking at the proposed budget?

[Ken Dunlap](#): For Water & Sewer?

[Ken Dunlap](#): Yeah, just for Water & Sewer.

[Bruce Smith](#): Yeah. I have no problem with, I can share the email that I sent to Jim. I don't know what he's going to do. It's really just a list of a couple of items.

[Participant](#): Just to see what's going on.

[Ken Dunlap](#): Yeah, that wouldn't be a bad idea.

[Art Schmelter](#): What we're talking about.

[Bruce Smith](#): See, just a second.

[Participant](#): What we're looking for.

[Ken Dunlap](#): If you send it I'll actually look at it.

[Dan Thiede](#): Yeah, right.

[Bruce Smith](#): Come on Ken, you usually look at stuff. It's just ... Jim. It's this one. Here, so my comments were, just going to read off the ... I highlighted some items. One was the additional salary for a fourth man for the last six months of the year, if it's

determined that we need that person, so I mentioned the telephone savings at 480 a month, that he could reduce that budget line item, and then I mentioned chemicals increased. We actually spent 73,000 last year. I'm not quite sure, PAA has something to do with that. That additional cost.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) We ran quite a bit heavy for a while.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) In the beginning.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Yeah.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Upfront.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Unfortunately, we ran quite a bit light prior years, which might have had something to do with the permit violations, so that is in the focus. Laboratory supplies. We had situations where we were testing for everything, and we cut back drastically on that stuff, and not only did it save lab supply money, it saved their time, because it was wasteful.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Oh, so in addition to the outside testing they're doing a lot more, yeah. Right.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Yeah, there was ... Well, you know the story. I don't need to go into that, so sampling budget. The outside testing budget I suggested, these are my suggestions, that they be reduced. Estimate for the asset management plan. It could be wrong, and then the total budget number. These are my recommendations, which is about 21,000 less than last year and about 51,000 less than what was expended in 2018, so, anyway, those are the highlights.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Okay.

[Matt Begley:](#) From a staffing standpoint, who would make that determination, whether or not the budget gets put in the budget? The council?

[Bruce Smith:](#) Well, mayor and council, yeah. It's just-

[Matt Begley:](#) It's not their intention to replace the person-

[Bruce Smith:](#) No. Here's the discussion, and I'll just tell you my discussion with the mayor. I suspect Dan's already talked to I'm. It was my suggestion that we wait, before we replace this guy. Let's evaluate how things are going. We have a part-time guy who's helping out a little bit. See what happens with that. There's the other thing that's happening, is there's significant cooperation between Water & Sewer and DPW now.

[Bruce Smith:](#) There's changes, and I'm not saying there's anything wrong with the past, but there's a significant level of cooperation there, and I don't really know what

council has planned for DPW, but maybe there could be some sharing. My whole point is let's wait and see, but I want to make sure the money's in the budget if it's absolutely necessary, so it would be something that would be evaluated and we'll have input, but it's not our decision. It's council's decision. Mayor and council, so-

[Matt Begley:](#) Yeah. You would hope though, with the operation with four, and I'm just talking headcount of last year, to three now, where I hear things about putting out fires and having to get this new work done on fire hydrants, and everything. Is there enough manpower to do that with one less guy? I don't see anything that with Dan, we're talking about, where it would be a shared service with general maintenance. Maybe equipment wise, or maybe if we're going to dig up something that we can use a piece of equipment, but I just have a concern with only having three bodies. I don't know this, the other gentleman, Carlos is his name?

[Bruce Smith:](#) Yeah.

[Matt Begley:](#) If he's part of the team out on property, if he's just a general maintenance guy. I don't know.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Yeah, and those are all valid points. The only thing I would say is this, and I mentioned it with the lab supplies. Probably what used to take them hours a day to do they don't do anymore, or do much less of it than they do before.

[Dan Thiede:](#) A lot less.

[Bruce Smith:](#) There's other procedures and things in place that were maybe wasteful of their time. There's the interaction, the changes with DPW and exactly what they're going to do, and I'm not saying we're not going to need them. I'm just saying let's give it time to evaluate it, and not knowing what they're going to do with DPW, not knowing how many people they need. Maybe they could share. I don't know, and that's not under my purview at all, so I want to make sure that the money's in the budget if necessary, but I don't want to jump into that, if you don't-

[Matt Begley:](#) I agree with that statement you just made. As long as the money's there. I would hate to have council say that water plant, everything looks great, so we're just not going to budget for that fourth guy in the budget. I understand the evaluation. I agree with that, but I don't want to get to a point where Dan gets overwhelmed and we don't have the ability to recommend putting somebody in there, because there isn't money in the budget.

[Bruce Smith:](#) I'm with you. That's exactly-

[Participant:](#) That's my only concern.

[Bruce Smith:](#) I'm trying to think, my train of thought. Hey Carlos, how're you doing?

[Carlos:](#) Good morning.

[Bruce Smith:](#) I think the point was give us time to evaluate it, have the money there as an option. That's why I highlighted. That was the number one item I sent to ... I know what I was I going to say. One of the things, even when I talk to Dan and staff, was that there are savings for these first six months. I would hope that the savings would be used for the capital to improve the situations, and the other thing that you mentioned was putting out the fires.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Putting out the fires cost a lot of their time, and now I'm very happy to see that it looks like we've turned a corner, and the fires are fewer and far between, so if we can take that money for that first six months period at least, and then use that for more capital, whether it's PRVs, the SKATA System, or whatever we used. That would make everybody happy, I think, so that's the focus and that's what I said.

[Matt Begley:](#) Is that the attention of the budget, or you don't know that yet?

[Bruce Smith:](#) Well, that's what I told the mayor. I don't know that yet.

[Matt Begley:](#) I agree with that statement too. I would hate to see that they're going to reduce the bottom line, where they could be taking that money and putting it into capital for either current or future capital expenses that we need.

[Bruce Smith:](#) This water tank is not going to be a cheap thing either way, so what occurred is that we did the study. The study was done, I don't know. Might have been April or May of last year.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Yeah, something like that.

[Bruce Smith:](#) It's forgotten, so we reminded them with the feasibility, and there's going to be a study that's going to take a look at the numbers, and it's not going to be, either way, a cheap endeavor, whether it's a repair or, I would hope it's going to be a replacement, so that's also on-

[Ken Dunlap:](#) I can tell you I'm hearing vibrations that go like we may not have to replace the tank. It might be cheaper to repair. I'm hearing that kind of thing. There's going to be a lot of pressure I think. Matt is correct. There's going to be a lot of pressure to keep the budgets down, to keep the tax rate down, because it's going to want to go up. We're increasing the SMSD, the county is probably increasing, the schools are going up, so there's going to be pressure on this kind of budget not to increase, and we've just got to push back on it.

[Bruce Smith:](#) I think we do, and I think it's you can ... I guess what I would say is that one of the problems, if we go back, let's say we go back five years, is that with United there everything was shoved under the bus.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Out of sight, out of mind.

[Bruce Smith:](#) There was no one doing what this group is doing now, which is advocating for a good water system and a good sewer system, and, listen. When you take these things over those are responsibilities that you have, and I don't want to be crying wolf here, but you don't want a disaster. We had a study that urged us to do something within a year, and sometimes you have to bite the bullet, and that's the way it is, so there's work ongoing with Stacy to get the billing up. Make sure we get the meters squared away.

[Bruce Smith:](#) We had a situation where we had an outside contractor install the meters. They did all the easy ones and maybe didn't do them right, but the tough ones they left, so that's another issue that they had to deal with, and they're still dealing with a little bit. You have equipment that was just ... Typically, what happens with a company like United and other contract operations firms is the contracts are structured, so that anything that's capital is the responsibility of the owner, so what they do, and I've seen this before in other places. What they do is they forget about maintenance or anything. They just let it run to failure. They run to failure. Didn't cost them anything, and it cost the owner the money to replace it, so those are a lot of the fires that are being put out.

[Bruce Smith:](#) The Ross valves that we talked about, same situation. They're quite old and they're creating problems. We're seeing positives from the standpoint that the ones that we replaced are doing good, and I have to think that no water main breaks over the winter had something to do with that. Might come back to bite me, but that's what I would like to think.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) That being the case, again, that's another fire that they don't have to fight.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Yeah, so we bit the bullet. We got fired last year. Okay. We moved on. There's a lot of positives to talk about, so we just don't want this tank to turn out to be-

[Matt Begley:](#) I think, just to piggyback on what you said, and don't take this wrong, anybody who was on this committee last year, but I think a credibility issue came in to affect some of the things that you guys did, of the report. People are like, "I don't trust that report," because that's what I heard from somebody who's on council right now, but that now has gone away and they were glad to see that we're going forward. We're trying to determine what actually needs to be done. Are we going to spend 700,000 to fix something, or are we going to replace something? I think that slight credibility issue has gone away.

[Bruce Smith:](#) It made a ton of difference, in my opinion. It made a ton of difference, so it's not an adversarial relationship, where you pissed off everybody, or you had a

situation where somebody authorized a \$70,000 expenditure, and I would hope that there would be a significant improvement in the respectability of this group, with regard to advising the council, mayor and council, as to what to do. Okay, so next item is water system repairs, and I mentioned Mockingbird and Bald Eagle, because I think it was mentioned last month, so what's the deal with this again?

[Dan Thiede:](#) That's a dead end. Mockingbird is now a dead end. There's no way to flush it. There's no way to do anything with it, until we tie it into the main line. Then we got the loop back, so when it comes to hydro flushing that end of Mockingbird can't be done.

[Bruce Smith:](#) What's the roadway like there? Is it-

[Art Schmelter:](#) Straight and narrow.

[Matt Begley:](#) I will tell you that there is the possibility of us repaving that this year.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Bald Eagle?

[Participant:](#) No. Mockingbird.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Oh, Mockingbird. Okay.

[Matt Begley:](#) That, if there's work to be done, it is something you should look at, if you've got to significantly dig up. I remember there were, I said last month, I was not involved back then, but there was meetings out there, with maps and the contractor, the paperwork.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Yeah, I remember that.

[Matt Begel:](#) Paul and everybody was out there with maps, trying to figure out what the hell happened, and I don't know, because I wasn't on the committee at that point.

[Dan Thiede:](#) I wasn't at any of those. Wayne went to those meetings.

[Matt Begely:](#) I don't know if there was ever any. Maybe that's a question for Paul Sterbenz. Was there every any resolution while meeting out there?

[Dan Thiede:](#) They went up there after work. I remember that one day. Wayne went up.

[Matt Begely:](#) I remember going out the front gate and they were all sitting out there. They had the contractor that did the work. They had Paul was there, Wayne was

there. I think Keith was there. There was a bunch of people there trying to figure out what went wrong, because something went wrong.

[Dan Thiede](#): Well, I can tell you what went wrong, when they asked us to mark it out. They left the old main in and the locator jumped the pipe. That's exactly what happened. They laid the two pipes so close together that it just jumped, and we went, obviously, to the wrong one.

[Ken Dunlap](#): To the wrong one, yeah.

[Bruce Smith](#): Yeah, so we can throw people under the bus.

[Matt Begley](#)> Doesn't matter.

[Bruce Smith](#): Yeah, it doesn't.

[Dan Thiede](#): It doesn't make a difference.

[Matt Begley](#): That's why I'm not worried about throwing under the bus. I'm more worried about was there a corrective action discussed on what should happen there?

[Dan Thiede](#): I have no clue.

[Bruce Smith](#): That's a good point. I will talk to Paul about it.

[Matt Begley](#): It is something we may want to move to the priority list, if that road's going to be dug up, because we're going to do everything, build and block everything on that road, so that's the last remaining main road that needs blocked on.

[Bruce Smith](#): This wouldn't be a big opening, correct? It's just going to be relocating it to the right pipe?

[Dan Thiede](#): Yeah. Basically, relocating it to the right pipe.

[Bruce Smith](#): Are we talking about a 20 foot area, something like that?

[Dan Thiede](#): That part I can't tell you. I would guess somewhere in that vicinity, yeah, because the pipes I think are only four feet apart, or three feet apart, or something like that.

[Bruce Smith](#): Anything else on water?

[Dan Thiede](#): Not right now.

[Bruce Smith](#): Okay, so move to the next item, sewer, and Dan, you mentioned to me yesterday something about some line that was clogged with roots or something.

[Dan Thiede:](#) That's the same line up off of Canada Goose. That's the same line. Every time we went to go up and try locate it, it snowed, so now it's getting better, so as soon as we're done with the hydrants we're going to take. It'll probably take an hour to locate that other manhole, and we'll dig it up, and then I got to get HMUA back in. I got to get risers put in, but I've also got to get HMUA to cut the roots, because when we did the camera it did show roots coming through one of the joints.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Well, isn't that surprising? Considering all the trees up there.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Well, it is still clear. I had them go up and check. The manhole's not overflowing, so we're still clear.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Is that an old wives' tale or is it an indication of leakage into the ...

[Dan Thiede:](#) This system has so many leaks in it now.

[Rich Evans:](#) What are you talking about?

[Dan Thiede:](#) We had a company, Wayne had a company back in way back when, when I first started here. We videoed some of the lines, and there's a lot of leaks in the system. When it rains our flow goes up. There's no no ifs, ands, or buts about it about it. Our flow goes up. We had 1.1 on Saturday. You can look on my chart down there, and the flow went up.

[Bruce Smith:](#) 1.1 inches you mean?

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah, 1.1 inches and it went up, and with the amount of water that's in the ground right now, it wouldn't surprise me if we're up just because of that.

[Bruce Smith:](#) How much did it go up?

[Dan Thiede:](#) I'd have to look at the chart harder. All I did was I looked at the chart to see what happened, and it definitely, the flow went up and stayed up for a lot longer than it normally would. That's all. I didn't look at the numbers.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Well, there's a couple of possible contributions, and I wouldn't think that, to be honest, you're in that bad a shape. I would think there's a lot more items above that are-

[Dan Thiede:](#) Oh, yeah.

[Bruce Smith:](#) That are necessary before that, but-

[Ken Dunlap:](#) That's newer, yeah.

[Bruce Smith:](#) First of all, you have a lot of capacity remaining in your, and some of it could be water going down [inaudible 00:57:34] You've got a lot of manholes. There's probably a lot of water running down the street ways, but I'm sure some of it, and there is some leakage, but it takes time to get those things and you ... Are you seeing it in manholes at all? Are you seeing manholes, where you have water spraying into them, at all?

[Dan Thiede:](#) No. I haven't gotten any of those that I've seen.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Well, those are sometimes a lot of the ones that can be issues. Yes Art?

[Art Schmelter:](#) A while ago it was determined that out in the field there was a nice sized hole in a line.

[Dan Thiede:](#) What field?

[Art Schmelter:](#) Out here.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Oh, out where [inaudible 00:58:21] are?

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Yeah. I remember we walked out there. Were you with-

[Dan Thiede:](#) I was with you when you did the one walk, but where is there a hole?

[Art Schmelter:](#) I didn't-

[Dan Thiede:](#) Did somebody forget to tell me that, or?

[Art Schmelter:](#) It may have been Bruce.

[Dan Thiede:](#) I remember Wayne was with us when we did that.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Wayne is the one that found the hole, and we heard about it for about three meetings in a row. A priority of fixing the hole, plugging it, replacing the pipe. That could be part of your problem, because all that thawing, snow out in the fields.

[Dan Thiede:](#) He found a hole?

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Hole in the sewer main.

[Art Schmelter:](#) The sewer line, coming from [inaudible 00:59:07]

[Bruce Smith:](#) I don't know anything about it.

[Dan Thiede](#): I don't either, because, actually, I wasn't there for the whole thing. He had me doing a little bit of running while we were doing it, while they were doing it. Paul was there, Keith was there, Wayne was there. I was there on and off, but I don't remember a hole. Were you there or no?

[Art Schmelter](#): No, but I heard it-

[Matt Begely](#): I do remember that.

[Dan Thiede](#): Do we have notes from that?

[Matt Begely](#): I may. It may take me a while to find them.

[Art Schmelter](#): Yeah, I probably do also, at home.

[Matt Begely](#): There was just a comment made, that there was a leak out in the field between Alphano Road and the plant.

[Ken Dunlap](#): Not a water leak, but an infiltration. Sewer line.

[Bruce Smith](#): Well, it's something that we can investigate. I hope it wasn't just a-

[Dan Thiede](#): I have the camera. I could always drop the camera.

[Bruce Smith](#): I hope it wasn't a situation where somebody made an assumption, and ... We can find that out.

[Art Schmelter](#): No, because they told us that they saw the whatever coming through at the plant, so it wasn't just a slight little problem.

[Matt Begely](#): It may be another question for Paul.

[Bruce Smith](#): Yeah.

[Art Schmelter](#): Yeah, because people was-

[Ken Dunlap](#): Yeah, he should remember, may remember.

[Bruce Smith](#): Last item I have is really discussion regarding Water & Sewer capital improvement list, and I wish I really had a copy of it. I don't have a copy in front of me.

[Dan Thiede](#): Hold on. Maybe I ...

[Bruce Smith](#): Honestly, we've talked about a lot of these items.

[Matt Begely](#): Is there any plan for any main replacement in the next year?

[Bruce Smith](#): Not in my mind.

[Matt Begely](#): Okay.

[Bruce Smith](#): Especially considering, again, we just haven't had any water main breaks, but there might be, I probably would need to talk to Paul about that. That's one area that I just don't really have a handle on what's out there, but I'm not aware of anything, and, to me, the tank and some of these other things are priority. There's been some talk. Maybe as part of this tank study there'll be a little bit more discussion. I've learned a little bit more about where some of these lines are. There are some small ones that are, there are some dead ends. There's some talk about that. There was some talk about interconnecting some of those. I just don't have a good handle on it personally, and maybe you-

[Ken Dunlap](#): Then there are the mains up at the Crest, which are old. We were talking about piggybacking some of that work in with the tank, in some grand package, but-

[Matt Begely](#): As far as the funding plan.

[Ken Dunlap](#): As far as funding goes, but we don't want-

[Matt Begely](#): I heard the same thing from Paul a while ago-

[Ken Dunlap](#): One to delay the other, and the tank is really-

[Bruce Smith](#): Yeah, that's exactly what I was thinking as you were saying that. I wouldn't want that to turn out to be an excuse not to do the tank.

[Ken Dunlap](#): Not to do the tank, yeah.

[Bruce Smith](#): I know in talking to Jim there's this New Jersey Infrastructure Trust, and I have never really been a proponent of it, because it's an engineer's dream.

[Participant](#): Goldmine.

[Bruce Smith](#): The state's not stupid. That's why they do that, but-

[Ken Dunlap](#): They require a lot of documentation.

[Bruce Smith](#): Yeah, and engineers love it, because it's carte blanche and they can do whatever they want, and when interest rates were high it made a lot of sense, because you got half of it at a low rate, but when interest rates are 1% or 2% the savings isn't quite there, and then they end up with principal forgiveness. That's a whole other story. That's like a grant, if you can get that, but now I hear that there's a

law that says you have to justify not using it. Meaning you have to do an analysis that-

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Even if you're not planning-

[Ken Dunlap:](#) You have to pay for a study, to tell-

[Ken Dunlap:](#) That sounds like an engineer's dream.

[Rich Evans:](#) You that we're not going to use it.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Well, the engineers probably lobbied for it.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Yeah, you think?

[Bruce Smith:](#) Anyway, so we've beat that to death. I don't know. Is there anything else that you remember from the list?

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Are you talking about a backhoe, or ...

[Dan Thiede:](#) That's always going to be on there.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Yeah, okay. Still.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yesterday we got the PAA, and I did everything I could to get that machine going faster.

[Matt Begely:](#) I will tell you that I was approached by a member of town council about if we would, Panther Valley would be interested in possibly entering into a shared services agreement.

[Dan Thiede:](#) I had heard that.

[Matt Begely:](#) Equipment. I researched it with our insurance company and I've made Art aware of it, as president of the board. That we think we'd be interested in opening a discussion with them, so that has been really back to that council person. That we're okay with insurance, as long as the right type of agreement is drawn up. We had talked just last week about some of the things that maybe you have, that could help us with some of the clogs and stuff we have, so there's definitely some discussion there, because I guess from the reason that was probably said to me is that there's probably not capital put aside for a backhoe at this point.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Yeah. Well, I have to admit, that occurred to me a while ago, but now I think there's a much, I'm seeing a much more, and not just with PVPOA, but overall, level of cooperation. It seems to be prevalent, so I think that's great. I know, at

least talking to Dan, whatever they ... You've been helpful to him, and I think he would certainly be helpful to you.

[Matt Begely:](#) Has been.

[Bruce Smith:](#) That's good to hear. I think there was some talk about getting a surplus backhoe some place, and again, I don't know what it was going to be used, maybe between them and DPW.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah, we were going to, it's going to be split the cost, I think, because it'd be cheaper all the way around.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Just so you know Dan, I did the driver's test on a backhoe.

[Dan Thiede:](#) I'll tell you what-

[Bruce Smith:](#) Who says you didn't test?

[Dan Thiede:](#) Wait a minute, wait. No.

[Bruce Smith:](#) You did that one too?

[All:](#) [laughter]

[Dan Thiede:](#) I'm such a good guy, I'll call you up when I get my PAA, and you can offload it off the truck. It's only 3,500 pounds for a tow.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Okay.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Maybe we should get-

[Art Schmelter:](#) Fair is fair Dan.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Maybe we should, can you back all the way out to that thing, or no?

[Dan Thiede:](#) No. He'll sink in that grass out there.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Okay. All right.

[Dan Thiede:](#) I looked into a forklift, but I can't do it, unless you pave all the way out there.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Well, I was thinking about some sort of a permanent stanchion, you could put a hoist on it and just offload it to truck that way, but that's just off the top of my head.

[Dan Thiede:](#) Yeah.

- [Bruce Smith:](#) I think some of the ... I can't think of anything more important than we talked about, that might have been on the list, so is there anything else anybody wants to bring up? This is a record here. It's only-
- [Matt Begely:](#) Can I bring up a Panther Valley question?
- [Bruce Smith:](#) Sure.
- [Matt Begely:](#) I've asked Dan this, but I want to pose it to you. We are having issues in our two older condominium associations, the Crest and village four condo. They have common sewer lines that run underneath the buildings, for the length of the buildings, and we're starting to see more and more clogs in those lines, and we've actually had a couple of them videotaped, and the inside of them almost looks like they need to be-
- [Bruce Smith:](#) Is it, are they cast iron?
- [Art Schmelter:](#) Yes.
- [Bruce Smith:](#) Extra heavy cast, or are they-
- [Stacy B.:](#) We've gotten calls about that.
- [Bruce Smith:](#) What's that?
- [Dan Thiede:](#) I don't know if it's extra heavy or not, but-
- [Stacy B.:](#) We've got some calls about that.
- [Dan Thiede:](#) The cast, it just gets the fingers in there, and people don't know how to stop flushing wipes.
- [Matt Begely:](#) My question is what is the best way to clean them out? Is it to have them pressured out, or is it can we go in and scarify them, and take everything off that's on the inside of them?
- [Bruce Smith:](#) Well, Ken, if you have videos that you can email me or leave a zip drive here, I'll take a look at the videos, and you don't have it, do you? I know we have a contract with HMUA, and they have small cleaners that have cutters on them. Are these, so ...
- [Matt Begely:](#) You're talking pipes that were put in, in '70 and probably '75, '76, '77, between the two complexes.
- [Bruce Smith:](#) Well, when you say it has these nodules in there, are we talking about metal or are we talking about just the-

[Art Schmelter:](#) No. I would just say calcium-

[Matt Begely:](#) Yeah, calcium [crosstalk 01:09:28]

[Bruce Smith:](#) It should be able to clean them with a jet, and that would take care of it. You certainly don't want to be replacing these things.

[Matt Begely:](#) No.

[Art Schmelter:](#) No. That's why we're talking to you.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Why don't you send me the, if you can?

[Matt Begely:](#) Okay. I think Tom still has the video.

[Art Schmelter:](#) Yeah, I think the cutters would probably break through it.

[Bruce Smith:](#) When you've had them clean, what-

[Matt Begely:](#) Just have Roto-Rooter come in, and just jet them.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Right. Has that fixed it, or?

[Matt Begely:](#) Not all of them, no. We've had some of the same. We've had to do a couple of buildings every six months, because we've had issues, but now we're starting to see. As Tom said, when he first started here 10 years ago we had no backups. Now, all of a sudden, it's a two or three a month occasion. We've got close to 48, I call them buildings, that need to be done. Again, are built in the '70s and '77, between the Crest and village four condo.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Unless there are situations where there's dips in the line, if there's dips in the line and you have standing water, they could be problems sometimes, because the grease floats to the top and it attaches it, so maybe the first step is send me a video or two.

[Ken Dunlap:](#) Evaluate, yeah.

[Bruce Smith:](#) Leave them here in a zip drive or something. I'll take a look at them, and then do you have any other thoughts, or?

[Dan Thiede:](#) I was under the assumption, till they told me it was under the floor. I thought they were the ones that go through, because I've seen some of the buildings up there. They actually go through the actual building. They're on the back wall of the building, and then they drop down at the very end. Those you could actually-

- [Matt Begely](#): That's at the Crest?
- [Dan Thiede](#): Yeah, those you could actually replace with plastic, to a certain point, where it goes into the ground. Obviously you're going to have to tie in there, but if it's under the building no. I have no clue. Shy of jetting it, but I don't know if anybody has a cutter that small.
- [Bruce Smith](#): Well, I'm pretty sure HMUA has, not only do they have some cutters, but I think they actually have a jet they can use for. These are four inch or six?
- [Dan Thiede](#): They're fours.
- [Matt Begely](#): Fours, yeah.
- [Bruce Smith](#): That's a little small, for how many units in a building?
- [Matt Begely](#): Eight to 12.
- [Bruce Smith](#): All right. Well, four is a little ... Four is a typical size for one single family home, so that sounds a little-
- [Ken Dunlap](#): Under built.
- [Bruce Smith](#): A little small, but I'm pretty sure they have a jet they can use for four inch lines. Four, six inch lines, and the only problem with using the jet is that you have to be really careful, because if you get a blockage downstream it'll actually force the water right up ... I used to have a board member, whenever we jetted the line out in the street he had a toilet that would create a problem. After that, we were very careful. That would be the only problem with using the jet, so you'd almost need-
- [Matt Begely](#): We have clean outs in almost every one of the buildings, so we'd be able to see that right away, if it was we're jetting and it wasn't flowing.
- [Bruce Smith](#): All right, so if you have maybe one of your worst ones, or talk to them, and so that we know which building it is. I can look at it, and Dan and I can talk. Dan can look at it as well, okay?
- [Dan Thiede](#): I can call Pete, see what he's got.
- [Matt Begely](#): Yeah, we just want to make sure we do the right thing. We want to start to put money away to do them all, because we want to be proactive that. We had a recent issue situation, that we're still dealing with, with the claim and all that.
- [Bruce Smith](#): Yeah, when you have backups, it can be a problem.

[Art Schmelter](#): We did the jet in village four, right?

[Matt Begely](#): We've done about four or five in the village.

[Art Schmelter](#): HMUA jetting village four, so they can handle it.

[Matt Begely](#): Yeah, but that was one that we couldn't figure out where it was, if it was underneath the building or if it was out in the mainline, that we had HMUA in for that. That was one that was-

[Art Schmelter](#): That was the same sized line, though. That's what I was getting at.

[Matt Begely](#): Okay. We'll continue to plug a way out, what we're going to do.

[Bruce Smith](#): Anything else? No?

[Ken Dunlap](#): We have ad builts for all those lines, right?

[Dan Thiede](#): Sure, we'll go with that.

[Matt Begely](#): We don't have original building plans for those, because, again-

[Ken Dunlap](#): We don't?

[Matt Begely](#): No, because that was [inaudible 01:14:10], and he took everything. We never got building plans.

[Dan Thiede](#): I don't have those bills going through there either. I have [inaudible 01:14:20]

[Ken Dunlap](#): Shocking.

[Bruce Smith](#): I suggested April 23rd for the next one. I have jury duty the week before that.

[Art Schmelter](#): Should be after approval of the budget too, right?

[Bruce Smith](#): No. When is that?

[Matt Begely](#): They will be approving their budget probably on the 24th, I would think. They would do their first reading on the 10th, and approval on the 24th.

[Stacy B.](#): The final meeting will be the 24th.

[Matt Begely](#): The 23rd is okay with me.

[Matt Begely](#): That's a Tuesday.

[Art Schmelter](#): That's a Tuesday.

[Bruce Smith](#): What was that about, Miss Sunshine? You'd rather meet on a Monday morning?

[Stacy B.:](#) No, that's the-

[Dan Thiede](#): I think we should do it Sunday morning. That way, nobody has anything to do.

[Stacy B.:](#) That's Easter weekend.

[Dan Thiede](#): There you go.

[Ken Dunlap](#): That is, yeah.

[Bruce Smith](#): I'm sorry, that's what?

[Rich Evans](#): Easter weekend.

[Stacy B.:](#) I was just saying that's-

[Dan Thiede](#): 21st is Easter, yeah.

[Stacy B.:](#) Yeah, so I'm thinking, but I'll be here that, I think we're here that Monday, but Tuesday's fine with me. Whatever you guys want to do, I'll be here.

[Bruce Smith](#): We good?

[Participant](#): Yeah.

[Ken Dunlap](#): Tuesday, yeah.

[Bruce Smith](#): Okay.

[Stacy B.:](#) 8:00 AM.

[Bruce Smith](#): 8:00 AM, right.

[Ken Dunlap](#): Yes.

[Matt Dunlap](#): Yes sir.

[Bruce Smith](#): 8:00 AM sharp. While the sunshine's still intact.

[Art Schmelter](#): Could be a lot warmer.

[Matt Begley](#): Get it before it goes down.

[Bruce Smith](#): All right. Thank you very much guys.

[Art Schmelter](#): Thank you.

[Matt Begely](#): Thanks guys. Nice.