

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON CRYSTAL LAKE
APRIL 2, 2015

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3 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: I'd like to call to
4 order the Peabody City Council Ad Hoc
5 Committee on Crystal Lake. First, I just want
6 to recognize some of the councillors here
7 tonight: Councillor Gould -- if people are
8 here that don't know the councillors, there's
9 Councillor Gould, Councillor Saslaw,
10 Councillor Gravel, and Councillor McGinn. So
11 I want to thank them for being here tonight.

12 I think we have our state delegation. I
13 see Leah Cole here tonight. Thank you for
14 coming, Leah. I see Ted's -- and forgive
15 me -- Michael, Ted Speliotis' rep. And Ted's
16 going to be here later. And I believe Joan
17 Lovely is supposed to be here. She'll be here
18 soon I believe. So thanks for coming.

19 First, of all I want to thank all the
20 residents and people that are here tonight.
21 It's been, I think, just about 30 years that
22 this project has been going on and on and on.
23 And guys like Stewart Lazares, Joe Finnegan,
24 Michael. You've been there waiting patiently.

1 You haven't given up hope.

2 So we're really excited that we're going to
3 actually start to move forward on this and get
4 something done over there. It's been -- it's
5 been a long time. I also want to thank Mayor
6 Bettencourt because he made this a priority of
7 his administration when he got elected and
8 he's followed through and he's helped -- he's
9 moved money around and helped us get -- get
10 where we want to be up to this point; so I
11 want to thank the mayor for that.

12 I want to recognize Karen Sawyer, Brendan
13 Callahan, Bob Langley. These are some of the
14 city department heads that worked on
15 committees over the last year. You may not
16 have seen a lot going on, but it was all
17 behind the scenes and I -- I'm a firm believer
18 of having a meeting when it means something.
19 I don't want to call people together just to
20 feel good. So I think now is the time and
21 we're going to move forward.

22 We've also invited all the department heads
23 here and I see a lot of them here -- board of
24 health, I think we have police, fire, Concom.

1 And the reason I did that is this is a large
2 project and we need all the city departments
3 involved to make it a successful and a safe --
4 I can't say that enough -- a safe project.
5 There's going to be a lot happening in that
6 area so we really want to make sure
7 everybody's involved and it's a team effort.

8 Here's our state senator Joan Lovely who
9 just walked in. Hi, Joan.

10 We all know that this project was delayed
11 and delayed over the years and -- to be
12 perfectly blunt -- it was really about the
13 funding to come up with the money to do it.
14 So it began a long time ago and the late Joyce
15 Spiliotis got us the first \$800,000 in funding
16 from the state and she was able to secure that
17 money and she was a good friend. I wish she
18 could be here tonight to see this get kicked
19 off.

20 Working with the Community Preservation we
21 were able to get some money out of there,
22 along with the mayor working some money from
23 Scout's Way. So we've got right -- we've
24 secured about \$2.5 million. Currently Senator

1 Lovely introduced a bond bill for \$400,000 up
2 at the State House and if this project gets
3 going -- and it will get going -- we're hoping
4 that we can secure those funds.

5 I want to thank Leah Cole and Ted Speliotis
6 for supporting that bond bill. So thank you
7 very much for that.

8 So the overall project is the restoration
9 of two bodies of water: We got Crystal Lake
10 and you have Elginwood Pond. And we have \$2.5
11 million dollars. So the reality is we don't
12 have enough money to do both bodies of water.
13 I know it's not what you want to hear and, to
14 be honest with you, it's not what I want to
15 hear, but it's critical we have to move
16 forward.

17 And as we move forward we will continue to
18 try to raise money to get Elginwood Pond done.
19 It's critical that gets done too. So I just
20 wanted to put that up front. I know some of
21 you people may be disappointed, but it's
22 critical to let people know.

23 We're going to -- I'm going to hand it over
24 to the mayor in a second and I just want to --

1 before I do, this is going to be an evolving
2 project. It's not written in stone. As we
3 move through this year, some things will
4 change. There's a signup sheet. I need -- I
5 would like everybody to sign up to keep the
6 line of communication open. It's critical.

7 We're going to have it on the Peabody -- on
8 the Web site so you can go and get
9 information. We'll have updates. We want to
10 keep that open and make sure it goes smooth
11 and everybody knows what's going on. And I
12 think that's it. I'm really excited. I'm
13 glad everybody's here.

14 And I'm going to hand it over to Mayor
15 Bettencourt and we'll -- oh, once -- once the
16 mayor speaks, then from there it's going to go
17 to Tighe & Bond. They're going to give a
18 presentation. After the presentation we'll
19 have public participation -- be able to come
20 up and speak -- but we'll go through the whole
21 presentation and then we'll have public
22 participation.

23 Mayor?

24 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: Well, thank you,

1 Councillor Sinewitz. That was a great
2 introduction. You hit all the -- really the
3 important points. As we all know, this has
4 been a long discussed and long debated
5 project. And I can't count the number of
6 neighbors, residents that have reached out on
7 this project -- many of them are here today --
8 that are excited about this project.

9 Our state delegation -- I was so glad that
10 Barry mentioned Joyce Spiliotis, who was
11 instrumental in getting things started for us
12 and our city councillors. Every city
13 councillor is onboard with this project.
14 While I was on the city council -- now as
15 mayor -- each one at some point has come up to
16 me and said, "Jeez, we've got to get that
17 Crystal Lake project going. We got to get
18 that moving. That will be wonderful for our
19 city."

20 And everybody's really excited about
21 this -- I know -- on the city council as well.
22 And, of course, the driving force behind it
23 has been Barry Sinewitz who -- this has been a
24 real focus for him, he's put in a great deal

1 of work on this. Nobody knows more about this
2 project than him and it's great to have him
3 leading the way.

4 But it's wonderful to be able to say that
5 we have commenced the Crystal Lake/Elginwood
6 Pond restoration project. It's very exciting,
7 but we do have a long road ahead of us. And
8 certainly we've been at this now for a number
9 of months, but we realize that there's still a
10 lot of work to be done and we're going to get
11 into that shortly with the power slide
12 presentation. But there's permitting, there's
13 design, and then the actual work begins.

14 But we have an extraordinary team that's
15 ready to tackle the challenges. And Barry
16 mentioned the members of the city that are
17 here today. We have Brendan Callahan, who's
18 the assistant director of planning for our
19 city for Community Development, as well as
20 Karen Sawyer, who is the director, and they've
21 done an outstanding job. And Brendan has been
22 living with this project for a number of
23 years. Blair Haney before him.

24 But it's wonderful to have a number of

1 other residents, city employees here today.
2 Joe Finnegan has been wonderful to work with.
3 He's in -- been in -- in various stages of
4 this project -- his expertise and knowledge of
5 the area. Stuart Lazares, many people, Jack
6 McMann people that have been very helpful to
7 get us to this point.

8 Our police department is here. Chief
9 Griffin, Captain Wlasuk are here, our
10 inspector Quinn from the fire department, we
11 have our health inspector -- health director
12 Sharon Cameron who's here; our conservation
13 agent Lucia DelNegro, and our department of
14 public works Bob Langley. I think I've
15 covered everybody, but -- oh, Pedro Soto, our
16 new member of the planning team for Community
17 Development.

18 But we have an outstanding group and
19 everybody's committed to making this project
20 successful. That's why we're here today. As
21 we begin, this is our first public meeting.
22 There will be many more to come. But each of
23 them are going to be involved. Some have
24 already have been involved, but many will be

1 involved even more so going forward because
2 this is going to be -- to be successful, we're
3 really going to have to have a full-team
4 effort on this.

5 One thing I did want to mention -- before
6 we go to the power slide presentation -- is I
7 think the city has benefitted in a lot of ways
8 from the work we're doing for the new
9 construction of the Higgins middle school. It
10 is in a tightly congested neighborhood with
11 residents -- residential units very close by,
12 some pretty busy streets.

13 So we've been able to tackle noise issues
14 and hours of operation issues and bus/truck
15 route issues, things that we're dealing with
16 on an everyday basis during the new
17 construction of the Higgins middle school
18 because all these issues are issues that we're
19 going to be dealing with as we do this
20 project.

21 As we all know, Lowell Street is the
22 busiest street in our city. Thousands of cars
23 are going to be passing by every day. It's
24 going to create some logistical challenges.

1 We have the bike path, we have neighborhoods
2 and houses nearby. We have a very busy
3 Hannaford Plaza across the street.

4 So there are many challenges to this
5 project and that's why we need the whole team
6 involved because everybody's going to be
7 touched in some way and asked for assistance.

8 One thing I did think about -- and it's
9 been very successful for us with the Higgins
10 middle school project -- has been having a
11 couple of neighborhood representatives that
12 live right near where the school's being built
13 right on James Street and they've been, kind
14 of, a liaison to -- for us to other members or
15 other neighbors in the area.

16 So that's something that Councillor
17 Sinewitz and I can maybe work with some
18 neighbors to assist us in helping spread the
19 word letting people know the timing of things,
20 letting people know when certain types of
21 activities are going to take place. I think
22 that's something that would greatly benefit us
23 during the project.

24 I've always thought that this was going be

1 a year of design and permitting -- and we'll
2 speak to that shortly -- but we're hopeful
3 that we're going to be able to start -- you'll
4 start seeing some real activity at the very
5 end of this year; mainly the winter, spring,
6 summer of next year.

7 I get asked more about this project than I
8 probably do about any project we've done in
9 the city. People are excited about this
10 project; not only people that live nearby, but
11 people across the city because I think they
12 recognize, as we all do, the type of jewel
13 this can be for the city of Peabody.

14 Just today I had Pack 87 from the Cub
15 Scouts in -- and it's a west Peabody-based Cub
16 Scout troop -- and they came in and we were
17 talking about a number of city issues and I --
18 I -- talking about a number of different
19 projects and I could tell I was losing them so
20 I brought up Crystal Lake and all of them got
21 all excited thinking about Crystal Lake and
22 the nature trails and the possibilities for
23 not only what can be done on the ponds, you
24 know, canoeing and fishing and the like, but

1 also in the back, you know, the potential for
2 trails and -- and all that -- all that type of
3 activity.

4 So this is really a community project.
5 People are very excited about it, but we're
6 going to need a lot of help; not only from the
7 city employees, the team we've hired, which we
8 feel very excited about having them as
9 partners -- Tighe & Bond -- but also the
10 neighbors, the residents in the area, and just
11 the community at large.

12 So we're thrilled to have all of you here
13 today to help get this started. We're going
14 to give you some up dates, give an opportunity
15 to, you know, ask some questions, give some
16 comments. But we have a long -- long road
17 ahead of us, but we feel we've taken some --
18 many positive steps.

19 So I'm going to turn it back over to
20 Councillor Sinewitz to begin the presentation.
21 But again thank you for all being here. It
22 does help us out.

23 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Thank you, Mayor.
24 I'd just like to let everybody know, Rep. Ted

1 Speliotis is here.

2 Thanks for coming, Ted. We appreciate it.

3 I'm going to introduce now two guys from
4 Tighe & Bond: Dave Murphy and Dan Buttrick.
5 Just to let everybody know, we went through a
6 selection process and we interviewed a lot of
7 companies and we decided with Tighe & Bond for
8 many reasons, but one of the things is these
9 two gentlemen right here are very easy to work
10 with, they return phone calls, they're
11 helpful, I just felt very comfortable, and I'm
12 glad they're on board and they're overseeing
13 the project.

14 So at this point now I want to introduce.
15 The guy with the red tie is Dave Murphy and
16 his partner is Dan Buttrick. Come forward.

17 MR. MURPHY: Thank you, Councillor
18 Sinewitz, and thank you, Mr. Mayor. Tighe &
19 Bond is pleased to be here. We've been
20 working with the city for 40 years. Dan and I
21 are the two faces of the project team serving
22 together with the team that the mayor has
23 assembled with Mr. Sinewitz, but we have 260
24 environmental specialists over our shoulder

1 that we can draw from as needed. It's a very
2 complex project. It has many moving parts to
3 it. We were -- we were excited to work with
4 the city on this project.

5 Dan, if you could flip the slide.

6 Just a quick update. We'll -- we'll do an
7 update of where we are right now, what we've
8 done. We'll have -- turn it back to the mayor
9 to go through the project schedule that
10 we'll -- hope to achieve. Dan will walk
11 through some dredging methods that we've
12 studied and where we're honing in on the type
13 of methods and the cost analysis that we've
14 done.

15 We'll look at environmental impacts. We
16 will also look at several of the outdoor
17 recreational improvements. Some of -- you've
18 seen some of the initial concepts on the
19 boards in the back of the room so please feel
20 free to look at those as well.

21 The slide, Dan.

22 Right now today we've completed the
23 topographic survey and the property line
24 survey for the -- Crystal Lake and the

1 Elginwood Pond area. We've completed a full
2 wetlands delineation for the wetland resources
3 in the area. There's been a preliminary
4 sediment quality sampling so samples have been
5 taken, we've looked at the -- the -- how clean
6 the sediment is itself.

7 And we've actually looked at -- and we
8 spent quite a bit time going back and forth
9 with the team that the mayor has assembled
10 here in the city to look at the different
11 dredging options available. As you are aware
12 likely, there are many different options that
13 we have.

14 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: (INAUDIBLE).

15 MR. MURPHY: Okay. Maybe a little closer.
16 So the dredging options and the disposal
17 options. One of the things in the industry
18 the -- the tail that wags the dog really is
19 the cost of disposal or the ultimate reuse of
20 the sediments; so that was studied fairly
21 extensively and -- and worked through with the
22 team and so you'll see some of that
23 presentation.

24 And open space concept developed. We

1 worked through that and -- and the desires of
2 the city. Again it's the beginning of the
3 process, but we have some concepts to present.
4 And obviously we've done pre-permitting
5 coordination already with multiple agencies.
6 There's a lot of permits associated with this
7 project and it will require a tremendous
8 amount of input from others.

9 With that, Mr. Mayor, could you take the
10 next slide on the -- on the schedule?

11 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: So I, kind of, alluded
12 to this. Well, I, kind of, alluded to some of
13 the scheduling -- the schedule that we're
14 looking at. But before I do, I did want to
15 mention -- David mentioned some permits that
16 are going to be required for -- for us to
17 begin the project.

18 And there are four major permits that we
19 need and some other, you know, potentially
20 minor ones or -- or additions to these
21 permits. But we need a Massachusetts
22 Environmental Policy Act -- or MEPA --
23 certificate from the state MEPA office; we
24 need Section 404 Individual Permit and that's

1 from the Army Corps of Engineers.

2 We -- with that we coordinate with
3 historical agencies required by the MEPA and
4 the 404 program, agencies including the
5 Massachusetts Historical Commission, Native
6 American Tribal Historical Preservation
7 Officers, and the Massachusetts Bureau of
8 Underwater Archaeological Resources.

9 Another permit is Section 401 is the water
10 quality certificate from the Mass. DEP. And
11 we also need a local permit from our local
12 conglom -- or Conservation Commission: An
13 order of conditions. And also EPA NPDES. I'm
14 not sure what NPDES stands for; so I'm not
15 even going to try, but it's -- it's a
16 construction storm water general permit
17 registration and storm water pollution
18 prevention plan -- a SWPPP.

19 So there are a number of permits that we
20 have been working on actively engaged in
21 the -- those agencies and working towards
22 those permits. So that's a large piece of the
23 work that's been taking place over the last
24 several months.

1 In terms of the schedule -- and this is
2 again a very loose schedule -- but the hope is
3 that -- we're doing some additional sediment
4 sampling now. We already did the first round
5 of sediment sampling. There's some additional
6 requirements that we needed to do; so there's
7 some additional sampling that's taking place
8 now this month.

9 The permitting is underway. We've been
10 working on that now for a period of time, but
11 we expect that that's going to take us through
12 August of this year. We have a meeting on
13 Friday with the Massachusetts DEP to continue
14 the discussions on a number of these topics.
15 We'll be continuing to have meetings with DEP,
16 as well as those other agencies that we need
17 to.

18 In the fall of 2015 we're looking at the
19 procurement. That's the process of going
20 ahead and hiring the company that's going to
21 be doing -- performing the work for us. The
22 hope is that in the winter of 2015 at the end
23 of this calendar year into the spring of 2016
24 will be the dredging operation.

1 That's when a lot of the activity will be
2 taking place. The trucks -- the -- we'll be
3 having the police involvement, our department
4 of public works will be involved and that's
5 when we'll all be tested during that period of
6 time and we'll need everybody's assistance.

7 And then the summer and fall of 2016 is
8 when we'll be working on the open space area
9 constructions -- the enhancements that we all
10 want to do, you know, creating an open space
11 picnic area, a -- having some docks for
12 fishing or canoe launching, doing the
13 potential nature trails; and some of the other
14 activities in the land in the area behind the
15 Crystal Lake and Elginwood Pond area. So
16 those are things that we'll be doing at that
17 time once the dredging is complete.

18 So it's really hard to give you a
19 definitive time line; so we wanted to, kind
20 of, just give you a -- what the general intent
21 is and where we hope to be over the next year
22 and a half or so that we're working on this
23 project. But again it's very exciting.

24 I feel like we've made some great strides,

1 but certainly there's a long way to go and --
2 but I feel we have a very good team working on
3 it.

4 Did I miss anything that we wanted to --

5 MR. MURPHY: At this time I'd like to turn
6 it over to Dan Buttrick. Dan is our -- our
7 lead person for the project and is our project
8 manager.

9 MR. BUTTRICK: Thank you, David, and thank
10 you, Mr. Mayor. I appreciate the opportunity
11 to be here tonight. So let's get right into
12 it.

13 As Barry mentioned earlier -- Councillor
14 Sinewitz -- the focus of the project is going
15 on Crystal Lake. That decision was made, kind
16 of, based on the different dredging options
17 and the money that's available based on the
18 costs that we've been looking at.

19 Right now, when you look out across the
20 lake, you'll see emergent aquatic vegetation
21 over much of the lake's surface that pokes
22 through. That's one of the real, kind of,
23 eyesore things that we -- that we're looking
24 at with the impoundment. So right now the

1 average depth of the lake is about 2 and a
2 half feet, 2.7 feet. It doesn't provide much
3 of a fishery resource. So far as we know,
4 Mass. Fish and Wildlife doesn't have any
5 information on the -- on the fish there, but
6 they think it probably is pretty deficient, in
7 terms of that warm water fishery.

8 The deepest the lake gets is about 4 feet
9 and that's in a limited area over on the side.
10 The proposal that we're looking at for the
11 project is to bring the depth of the lake in
12 about a 3 and a half foot area -- acre area at
13 the center to 8 feet; so that should really
14 help with fishery habitat and the aesthetics
15 of lake, and cutback on some of that aquatic
16 vegetation that's emergent.

17 From that 3 and a half foot depth the size
18 of the -- the -- kind of, the size of that
19 dredge footprint would slope back gently
20 toward the shorelines. We'd try to follow the
21 existing area below the pond bottom where the
22 soft, mucky sediments meets a sandy or a
23 gravelly or a layer that we believe is
24 underneath that we've shown in some of the

1 samples that we have.

2 And then we would keep the dredging
3 footprint away from Lowell Street and away
4 from -- both on the -- kind of, the northeast
5 sides and the southeast sides; and the idea
6 for that is to avoid interfering with the
7 habitat that those bank areas of the lake
8 provide.

9 There's -- there areas of emergent
10 vegetation -- vegetative shallows in those
11 areas so we'd stay away from that and instead
12 move the dredging footprint more towards the
13 south towards the open space area and that
14 would, kind of, increase the depth of
15 impoundment up to the shoreline and promote
16 fishing opportunities in that area.

17 So that's, sort of, generally what we're
18 talking about. Right now we're in discussions
19 with DEP, as David mentioned, about what we're
20 going to be doing with the sediment once it
21 gets excavated out of the impoundment so stay
22 tuned on that.

23 The budget for the project is, as
24 Councillor Sinewitz mentioned, is about 2 and

1 a half million dollars and so we are working
2 to come up with ways to tailor the dredging
3 quantities to that available budget based on
4 contractor bids. Because we can sit here all
5 day and play with typical project costs, but
6 when it really comes down to it what matters
7 for having a project that you can construct is
8 who the contractors are that show up to the
9 prebid meeting and bid on the job.

10 So we're working to structure a bid so that
11 the city, based on the prices that come in,
12 can pick a dredging area and volume that fits
13 the -- the project budget up to this
14 50,000-cubic yard volume that we're talking
15 about. We don't think it will vary much from
16 that. But it's good to have the option.

17 Thanks for moving the slide forward here,
18 David.

19 This is the layout that we have come up
20 with. The dark blue area toward the center is
21 that 8-foot depth full dredge footprint. And
22 then the -- the lighter blue around that is --
23 I think it was 5 -- 5 to 7 feet -- somewhere
24 in that footprint -- and then around the

1 fringes, as we bring that dredging footprint
2 back, that's where the majority of the slope
3 would be.

4 You can see also that there's a fringe
5 around most of the lake. You can see that
6 fringe where -- where it wouldn't be touched.
7 Over on the east side -- or, no, that's the
8 west side of the impoundment -- by where
9 Crystal Drive meets Lowell Street, that's
10 really the only area that's available for
11 contractor staging and access. That area
12 right now is wooded.

13 There's a foundation in there from -- from
14 a building that was present. We believe it
15 was an icehouse or possibly a train station at
16 one point or maybe both. So that area we're
17 talking about clearing and then working within
18 that for the different equipment that would be
19 necessary to do the work. And that would be
20 the way where vehicles would enter the
21 impoundment to be able to do the dredging work
22 and then exit again.

23 The dredging method that we're talking
24 about -- and we'll get into this in the next

1 slide a little bit -- is mechanical dredging,
2 which is to use heavy machinery to excavate
3 the sediment out of the bottom of the
4 impoundment, load it on trucks and haul it
5 out. There's a number of different dredging
6 approaches that get used on different
7 projects. For a number of reasons this is the
8 approach that seems to be best for this
9 impoundment.

10 The -- in order to do that, it's probably
11 necessary to draw the impoundment down and try
12 to dry up the bottom of the impoundment as
13 much as possible. There's no outlet
14 infrastructure, there's no drain to the pond
15 right now so that would need to be done using
16 pumps and pumping equipment.

17 David, if you can switch back to the last
18 slide.

19 We, kind of, show conceptually that those
20 pumps would probably be located in that area
21 at the -- at the intersection between Crystal
22 Drive and Lowell Street and then the
23 discharges to those pumps would occur over by
24 Elginwood Pond. So another part of the

1 project would be to, kind of, encapsulate that
2 portion of Elginwood Pond on its west side
3 and -- to have that area available as part of
4 that dewatering work.

5 So that would be to use turbidity curtains,
6 use cofferdams to, kind of, segregate that
7 area. And once Crystal Lake is dredged,
8 dredge that area of Elginwood Pond and clear
9 that out, and bring the depth of that to a few
10 feet deep for -- 3 or 4 feet deep.

11 So that way, you know, we don't expect that
12 there would be, you know, any migration of
13 sediment out of Crystal Lake, but it just
14 gives us a little bit more control over the
15 process. And then at the west side of the
16 pond or the north side --

17 Can you flip it back again, David? Thank
18 you.

19 In order to accomplish the draining of the
20 impoundment there's a -- there's an inflow
21 from a wetland that's on the opposite side of
22 Lowell Street -- that inflow is right in the
23 north corner -- we envision a cofferdam being
24 placed there and so that way the draining of

1 the impoundment is just limited to Crystal
2 Lake. There's no impacts to the wetlands on
3 the other side of the -- of the road.

4 And then that flow from that area -- storm
5 water flow and such -- would be pumped around
6 the -- the dried bottom of Crystal Lake to --
7 you know, so you're not re -- rewetting the
8 sediment in the lake bottom to the extent you
9 can control that during the dredging process.

10 So I think I'm done with this for your --
11 and actually you can move it to the next one
12 too.

13 So the city -- coming up with this dredging
14 program has taken really a lot of effort and a
15 lot of discussions, a lot of thinking and --
16 even on our part -- a few instances of going
17 back to the drawing board because there's a
18 lot of different dredging methods that are
19 available, they all cost different based on --
20 they cost different amounts based on what the
21 site constraints are.

22 This is a very constrained site because of
23 that lack of access and we've come up with
24 some options that seemed good initially, but

1 then upon further -- further work just didn't
2 really pan out. So these are -- these are the
3 other ones that we've looked at.

4 The first is hydraulic dredge. This is
5 where, instead of drawing down the pond or
6 using heavy equipment to excavate the pond,
7 you go out on the pond with a barge and
8 mobilize the sediment by -- with water jets
9 and then suck it up into a pump, and then
10 carry it to some -- some dewatering method, in
11 order to remove all that water that you just
12 entrained in the sediment.

13 That's been in done in Massachusetts before
14 in a number of instances. It can either be
15 very land intensive, if you use big settling
16 basins to settle that, and that was something
17 that had been pursued in the past -- was
18 actually clearly some of the land south of the
19 lake, building large settling basins and then
20 the letting the sediment settle there. That
21 wasn't going to work because we really don't
22 want to touch that area. There's vernal pools
23 in that area; so, you know, we just don't want
24 to have kind of impacts.

1 You can also get -- you can get equipment
2 that can dewater that sediment. They call
3 them belt filter presses. They have
4 centrifuges. The problem with those is they
5 add costs, they use a lot of energy, and even
6 they take, you know, half an acre or an acre
7 of land to -- to stage it all and that's just
8 really not going to -- that's not going to pan
9 out.

10 The cost of this option we're looking at 3
11 and a half to \$4 million or something like
12 that. That's a lot of money so -- so it just
13 seemed like it wasn't going to work.

14 Other dredging methods. This is another
15 one that's used more in coastal applications
16 and a member of our project team has done this
17 in New Hampshire before -- we've been
18 hard-pressed to find an example of it being
19 permitted in Mass. -- is to go out on an
20 impoundment with a barge, put an excavator on
21 it -- and maybe have a crane working from the
22 shore -- dig down through the water column,
23 excavate the sediment, and put it on barges
24 and take it away.

1 In this case they would just move it over
2 to the shoreline and that sediment, which is
3 still quite wet, would have to -- would have
4 to dewater by draining back into the pond
5 until it was dry enough to be hauled away.
6 Sounds good, but there are a few environmental
7 impacts in some of the other options because
8 you're not drawing down the impoundment.

9 It actually doesn't really -- it supposedly
10 doesn't mobilize as much turbidity as
11 hydraulic dredging. I'm not sure about that,
12 but it's what I've heard. And there's a
13 possibility that the cost would be lower than
14 the -- the hydraulic dredging option anyway.
15 But then again there is that potential for
16 sediment suspension.

17 There is a possible high cost when you get
18 barges out there and you've got to -- you have
19 to have, you know, the right personnel to run
20 that sort of operation. It can get very
21 expensive. I think this contractor just
22 rented a barge and then went out. But this
23 was a 3,000 cubic yard dredging project; so it
24 was less than a tenth of the size of what

1 we're talking about. And then there's just
2 not that space available for dewatering again.
3 So that's that option.

4 If you want to move the presentation ahead.

5 Now this option is one that was looking
6 pretty good for a while. We've been calling
7 it the cut and cover option. And David has
8 experience with this one, I believe.

9 Correct me, if I'm wrong, David.

10 The Boston harbor dredging project where
11 you dig -- dig a hole under water and then
12 bring the sediment that -- that you're trying
13 to get rid of -- put it in the hole and then
14 cap it. So in this case, we think that there
15 are sands and gravels below the bottom of the
16 impoundment and that those sands and gravels
17 would drain quicker than the soft sediment
18 that's on top of it because the soft
19 sediment's like a fine muck, there's peat.
20 It's just, kind of, goopy. I've heard it
21 described as, you know, mayonnaise.

22 You could call it other things. That takes
23 forever to dewater. Sand and gravel would
24 dewater pretty quickly so, in this case, if

1 you move the sediment on top aside, excavated
2 the sand and gravel and created a deep hole,
3 and then put the sediment back in the hole,
4 then you're removing the sand and gravels,
5 number one, you may be able to use it for
6 something or sell it and, number two, the
7 dewatering becomes easier.

8 So we've looked at this a lot. It seemed
9 pretty good. So we started talking with some
10 dredging contractors just to, kind of, get
11 their buy-in and it seems -- started to seem
12 like it was just going to be too technically
13 challenging. And what we don't want to do is
14 get down the path where we have a project all
15 planned and permitted and then we get the bids
16 in and, you know, that's game over. And that
17 happens a lot on dredging projects.

18 I -- I live in a town in the western part
19 of the state. We did a 55,000 cubic yard
20 dredging project and I think it was permitted
21 -- it permitted like two or three times and
22 bid at least once before they came up with an
23 option that was actually constructable. And
24 the option that was actually constructable in

1 the end was exactly what we're talking about
2 here. So that, kind of, gives you a sense for
3 what we've looked at for dredging options.

4 The next thing we wanted to talk about is
5 while we're draining the pond that seems like
6 it's not necessarily going to be the best
7 thing for the environment at least in the
8 short term. Even though we have a goal of
9 aquatic habitat restoration, we are -- you
10 know, in that middle term period what do we
11 do?

12 So I was able to get some pictures from the
13 people involved in the town that I live in on
14 the -- the dredging project that they had --
15 those are shown in the bottom. We'll get to
16 that in a minute. Fortunately, Natural
17 Heritage does not -- has not mapped this area
18 for endangered species; so we don't have
19 specific concerns related to a rare -- a
20 state-listed rare species so that works in
21 favor of this alternative.

22 We do have those -- that first round of
23 limited sediment tests that we did. The
24 sediment is relatively free from contaminants.

1 A lot of times sediment is very contaminated
2 because any time something happens on the
3 land, it ends up in the water and then
4 whatever material that is accumulates in the
5 sediment. In this case, we are not seeing a
6 lot of that.

7 There's a couple of things, you know, that
8 are a little high, but actually nothing that
9 you would not -- you know, if you were to go
10 out and test your backyard, for example, you
11 might find that there are a higher level of
12 contaminants than what we found in the
13 sediment. So that's a real plus in favor of
14 the project, at least from what we know so
15 far. As we've mentioned, we're going out to
16 do more sampling later this month.

17 And so then getting back to the fisheries
18 issue, we started to coordinate with Mass.
19 Wildlife already on how we will, kind of, take
20 care of those intermediate impacts of the
21 project from draining the pond. And so what
22 they did, in the case of this project, they
23 called Mass. Wildlife, and they called the
24 local rod and gun club, they called local

1 volunteer groups with environmental interest
2 and, when the pond started to draw down,
3 everybody got out with their buckets and
4 waders and they started collecting fish from
5 in the pond and they hauled them right over
6 the street and dumped in the next pond
7 downstream.

8 And this will be a great -- this would be,
9 kind of, a great application for this too.
10 You could take fish out of Crystal Lake, put
11 them in Elginwood Pond temporarily for the
12 course of the project. Following the project
13 they went back to the downstream pond, they
14 fished it essentially, and then with Mass.
15 Wildlife's assistance at no charge, they
16 brought the fish back over to the pond now
17 that the water level's back up.

18 They also -- they also got a ton of shiners
19 and just dumped them in so that the fish would
20 have something to -- to consume once they got
21 back in there. And then we'd also be looking
22 at doing some -- some habitat structure
23 improvements to the bottom of the pond. So --
24 excuse me -- instead of being a -- you know, a

1 clear, dredged, flat, sand, and gravel bottom
2 of the impoundment we're going to be working
3 with MassWildlife to add trees, to add
4 boulders submerged to, kind of, provide
5 that -- that habitat structure that fish like.

6 So as the pond -- as the lake becomes
7 recolonized, then, you know, they have the
8 features that they're going to be looking for.

9 That's that. David, next slide.

10 The next issues that we want to talk about
11 briefly is noise, especially during the
12 impoundment drain period. It's going to take
13 some big pumps running 24/7 for a while to get
14 the water level down. But there are hospital
15 mufflers -- they call them -- available that
16 you can put on generators and large pumps and
17 that kind of thing, which should keep the
18 noise to a reasonable decibel level.

19 And the pumps are in a -- in a place where
20 they're at least as far away from residential
21 areas as we can think of to put them. So I'm
22 not going to say you're not going to hear
23 them, but it shouldn't be too bad. And again
24 this is preliminary and we're going to keep,

1 kind of, working on these details as we work
2 through the project.

3 The next thing to just touch on briefly, we
4 don't have a -- there's not a truck route
5 figured out at this point, but we're talking
6 about possibly 20 to 25 truck trips a day for
7 about 100-day dredging period. That's what
8 would be -- a typical dredging production
9 would be about 500 cubic yards per day of --
10 of excavation and so that's more or less what
11 that would come out to. And we will work on
12 those numbers and truck routes and this sort
13 of thing as -- as the project continues.

14 The other thing that we wanted to just
15 bring up is odor. Ponds can be smelly when
16 they have no water in them. We -- it may not
17 be too bad, but I'm not going to say -- I'm
18 not going to guarantee it. In my town when
19 the pond was drained you didn't really notice
20 and I was surprised by that.

21 But planning this project for the winter
22 period will help with that. That's a benefit.
23 People are inside, windows are shut, and since
24 it's cooler there's just not as much

1 biological activity going on with these kinds
2 of organic sediments. Keep in mind that the
3 project is limited duration and once it's
4 done, conditions will be improved at the lake
5 and, you know, I think it will be a great
6 resource for the city.

7 All right. So that's talking a little bit
8 about the dredging project and how this is
9 going to work and what we're talking about
10 doing. The next thing we wanted to mention is
11 the improvements that we've been talking about
12 with the city for afterwards. So the goals
13 that we've been thinking about are to provide
14 an open space area at Crystal Lake.

15 Right now the area to the south -- I mean,
16 is very nice, it's wooded, you know, there are
17 trails through it, there are monuments that
18 you can get to, but there are no amenities
19 really. It's nice for hiking, but it doesn't,
20 kind of, give you a place to reflect and enjoy
21 the pond. So what we're thinking about is an
22 area for picnicking, for fishing access, for
23 boating access to the impoundment.

24 We'd like to try to do an ADA accessible

1 trail with an overlook, and then it's
2 really -- actually really nice that the
3 greenway passes right by there because it'd be
4 really easy to link up this open space area
5 with that, kind of, pedestrian corridor so
6 that you can get to this location very easily.

7 There are several existing monuments and
8 displays out there already and so those would
9 be integrated into this -- into the concept.
10 And then we'd like to try to add parking, if
11 possible. It's a very -- again -- constrained
12 area so it just may not be -- the amount of
13 parking that would be added, if any, would
14 take away from the area that's available for
15 picnicking and for -- for those kinds of uses.

16 And then we're looking at a target budget
17 of \$300,000. So with that in mind, this next
18 figure, sort of, shows one concept. This --
19 this is just a landscape architecture
20 rendering of one possibility. This one
21 includes widening the end of Crystal Drive
22 somewhat to -- so it's wide enough to be a
23 two-way road and then adding six parking
24 spaces, including an ADA accessible spot in

1 the area where the -- kind of, that staging
2 and access area for the dredging period would
3 be.

4 Once that area's cleared, that's, kind of,
5 a natural place to add improvements for open
6 space access. So this one includes a fixed
7 pier for fishing, a floating pier for -- put
8 in for small boats like a car top boat access,
9 a gazebo if that's something that the city is
10 interested in, and then over more to the
11 right-hand side of the picture along the
12 bikeway that's where that ADA accessible path
13 to a scenic overlook would be added. So
14 this -- this whole, kind of, concept would be
15 ADA accessible.

16 And since that foundation of the -- what
17 was there before -- and we're, kind of,
18 researching this and coordinating with Mass.
19 Historical Commission and the Peabody
20 Historical Commission on it -- but that
21 icehouse foundation, you know, that is a
22 possible historical resource and the outline
23 of it could be integrated into this -- into
24 this open space area to, kind of, give you --

1 give a person there a sense for, you know,
2 what this place looked like historically just
3 as, kind of, a -- kind of, a reminder of the
4 past.

5 This concept is basically same. It just
6 doesn't have the parking associated with it so
7 there's more room for picnicking and -- and
8 that kind of thing. You know? Right across
9 the street there is the Hannaford Plaza that
10 has parking available and since it's located
11 right along the bikeway, people can get there
12 by wheelchair, by walking, by bicycle.

13 So that's what -- that's what we've been
14 talking about so far. I'll turn it back over
15 to Barry -- Councillor Sinewitz.

16 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Thank you, Dan, and,
17 Dave. So I think everybody's sitting there
18 taking this all in and has a lot of questions.
19 So I -- I just want to -- before we open up
20 for public participation, I just want a couple
21 of comments.

22 So a lot of this project because of the
23 unknown of where at this point the sediment's
24 going to go -- whether it's going to go

1 locally, it's going to go farther away -- that
2 affects the amount of sediment that we can
3 take out of the lake based on cost. So
4 obviously if we can get it closer here to
5 Peabody, it's less trucking so forth, so on.
6 So we should be able to do more and get maybe
7 a little more of the lake dredged, but it's
8 going to come down to the cost of disposal of
9 the sediment, like Dave and Dan said.

10 Truck routes. That's a lot of trucks so
11 we're going to have to be ready for that. I
12 want the police to know what's going on.
13 We'll have -- I'm sure that will be a busy
14 area. Bike path may have to be shut down for
15 a while. I know it will be the winter, but I
16 don't think -- but that road is still open on
17 Crystal Drive so the residents over there have
18 to be -- be able to access -- obviously access
19 to their homes.

20 So I think it's a great plan that they've
21 come up with -- a lot of thought, a lot of
22 work has gone into it -- and I want to hear
23 what you guys have to say. So what I want to
24 do is if you -- if anybody wants to speak,

1 please come up, give your name, and then ask
2 your questions; and then if you could sit down
3 and those guys will come up and answer any
4 questions you have.

5 So would anybody like to come forward and
6 speak? Come on up.

7 MR. LAZARES: Good evening, everybody. My
8 name is Stewart Lazares. I have a home at 2
9 Upham Street, which is not far from Crystal
10 Lake. I have been on the Planning Board in
11 Peabody for 20 years and I bring that up
12 because during my tenure I saw many
13 subdivisions get built in West Peabody and a
14 lot of this -- the -- the dirt, the
15 excavations, the roads that were built -- all
16 that tended to go down into Crystal Lake and
17 Elginwood Pond and it created something called
18 early eutrophication of the lake, which means
19 it fills in.

20 And it fills in naturally just leaves
21 blowing into it, rotting, and falling to the
22 bottom. Here we're stuffing in all kinds of
23 things we didn't plan on and -- the dirt, the
24 sand, the salt. And even in the winter like

1 we had this year you're into a much heavier
2 dose of those kinds of things.

3 And the thing that I'm up here to talk
4 about primarily is -- and I think the mayor
5 spoke about it briefly -- we want to see what
6 can be done to prevent those kinds of
7 infiltrations of salt, sand, just normal
8 debris, leaving going down into the lake. How
9 does get it there? Every street that we have
10 has a storm drain and the storm drains have a
11 sump and if that sump fills up and isn't
12 cleaned, the dirt goes beyond into the pipe
13 and keeps going. Ultimately it goes into
14 Crystal Lake -- it goes into any lake that's
15 downstream from that drain.

16 So my recommendation tonight is to come up
17 with a plan from the department of Public
18 Services to service all the storm drains in
19 the area now and come up with a schedule to
20 keep them maintained. And I'd like to see an
21 addition to the project -- which I haven't
22 heard yet -- for some device that would keep
23 the dirt, not only out of the lake, but a
24 method to clean those traps, if you will, so

1 that we're not facing the same situation after
2 spending millions of dollars 10 years from
3 now.

4 And there are things called stormceptors --
5 I'm sure you guys are familiar with them --
6 I'm not familiar with how much they cost
7 today, but they're effective in remediating
8 the problem. One area in particular that I'm
9 aware of is the intersection of where Lowell
10 meets Russell -- across the street -- the
11 pavement literally has been paved over
12 allowing rain water drainage from the streets
13 to just run right into the pond. There's no
14 sump, there's nothing, it just goes straight
15 in.

16 During the winter you can see clear water
17 because the salt from the street would just
18 melt the ice that was in there. The swans
19 liked it. They had someplace to play. The --
20 there is a clean water act that that is all
21 part of and will -- I'm sure the city will do
22 whatever it has to do to bring the water in to
23 compliance with the law when it's -- when
24 they're developing this project.

1 This is a very exciting project. I'm
2 thrilled to see it. I've been looking forward
3 to this over 10 years. And I -- myself and
4 several members of the audience founded
5 Friends of Crystal Lake, which ultimately
6 became Friends of Peabody Lakes and we have a
7 real interest in seeing the lakes and ponds in
8 the city maintained.

9 The 8-foot depth that was mentioned -- the
10 depth is required primarily to keep -- you
11 want to -- you want to make sure that you're
12 below what's called a light line so that the
13 plants have no light to grow. Right now they
14 have lily pads all over the place -- the
15 water's 6 to 12 inches deep -- and if we can
16 lower the bottom and lower the amount of light
17 going to the bottom, we will prevent the
18 situation from happening again.

19 As these plants grow -- and you'll see them
20 growing every year -- they die off and the
21 dead vegetation falls to the bottom. Again it
22 raises -- lowers the amount of water in there,
23 it raises the bottom. So the 8 foot depth is
24 important. I'm not sure how much 50,000 cubic

1 yards is. Can you do it in a number of
2 buildings like this? I mean, that would be an
3 impressive way to show it.

4 Pumping -- I have a question. Pumping
5 Elginwood Pond -- pumping Crystal Lake waters
6 as you dredge or dig down and waters come
7 in -- because you were talking about capturing
8 water coming from upstream -- the wetlands
9 across Lowell Street -- as you pump that water
10 into Elginwood Pond is there some way to
11 pump -- direct the water so that the surface
12 of Elginwood Pond is -- there's a current that
13 would stop algae growth that's prevalent at
14 that side of Elginwood Pond? At no extra
15 cost, okay?

16 I would like to see -- and I think
17 everybody here would like to see -- a copy of
18 the presentation tonight posted on the Web
19 site. Okay? I'd like to see a copy of the
20 core sample data once it's achieved -- once
21 you guys have it, I'd like to see that posted
22 on the Web site for everybody to see.

23 Then these things -- I have one from 20 or
24 30 years ago. It's talks -- it's like reading

1 a water quality report. It shows us the
2 amount of stuff going down that they find and
3 then it shows the -- it lists the
4 stuff that -- that's going down the side, and
5 then it shows columns of ultimately how much
6 they found and what is a threshold for what
7 they're -- so you know relatively if they're
8 below the threshold that would do danger. And
9 that would be in a core sample.

10 I'd like to see a storm drain clean-out
11 schedule posted on the Web site also so that
12 the residents can know when their storm drains
13 are being cleaned; and it should be done more
14 than once a year in this area. I'd like to
15 see a monthly report from Tighe & Bond on the
16 Web site. So even if we don't meet for two or
17 three months, we know what they've achieved
18 and what's working. Okay?

19 I'd also like to see a maintenance program
20 and the funding on the Web site because if we
21 don't maintain it, we're going to be back
22 where we were. So if we can have some, sort
23 of, program put in place that should be there
24 anyway from the city funding knowing what's

1 happening and when it should happen, then as
2 citizens, if it doesn't happen, you're aware
3 of what needs to be done to fix it and call
4 Brendan; right?

5 One of the things that Friends of Peabody
6 Lakes came up with a long time ago was -- not
7 only the fishing dock, the canoes -- we were
8 talking about getting ahold of a company that
9 maybe did fishing tackle, fishing gear and
10 having them stock the lake once it's dredged
11 with fish and run a fishing contest every
12 year. I mean, those are things that can be
13 done.

14 I mean, there's -- I like the idea of the
15 dredging that you've come up with. I think
16 that's the least messy, the least invasive.
17 Yeah, there's a lot of dirt to truck out of
18 there but at least it's not like if you're
19 pumping, you know, slurry from a hydraulic
20 dredge and we've seen that when we did Spring
21 Pond and that was -- this is a much better
22 solution. I applaud you. Good idea.

23 So I just, you know -- and I'd like to
24 again thank the mayor, Barry Sinewitz, Joyce

1 Spiliotis, Joan Lovely, Leah Cole, and Ted
2 Speliotis for their support. And I'd like to
3 keep this going because it's a great project
4 and everybody should be proud of it. And we
5 should move on to Elginwood Pond as soon as we
6 can. Thank you.

7 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Thanks, Stewart. I'm
8 going to let -- I just want to have Dave
9 respond to the maintenance part of this. But
10 as far as the Web site -- we want to keep
11 transparency -- any information we get, we
12 want to place on there.

13 We did do core samples early of just a few
14 various spots, but once we actually got into
15 the dredging of where we were going to be
16 dredging, the DEP requires us to go exactly to
17 those areas --

18 If I'm not mistaken, Dave.

19 -- so that's why we just did a few early --
20 was it late November/December of last year?
21 So that's where we are now. So if you could
22 comment on the maintenance.

23 MR. MURPHY: Quickly on the maintenance.
24 The mayor and the team have -- have talked

1 extensively about this issue, particularly
2 with Joe, to invest \$2.5 million and not put
3 controls in would be foolish for the city and
4 for the team and indeed that will be something
5 that will be focused on.

6 And so all the preventative controls
7 necessary to make sure that -- that we
8 preserve the work that's invested in this pond
9 will -- will occur.

10 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: And I will work -- I
11 will communicate with Bob Langley, head of the
12 department of public works, to look into those
13 storm drains that surround the lake and see if
14 we can come up with something on that.
15 Anybody else?

16 MR. LAZARES: (INAUDIBLE).

17 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Yeah, I think Brendan
18 Callahan would be the contact person. Anybody
19 else from the audience? I'll open it up to
20 councillors. Councillor Gould?

21 COUNCILLOR GOULD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
22 I applaud everyone for coming out tonight.
23 Thank you. There's some great interest.
24 Appreciate it. Thanks, Mr. Mayor, Councillor

1 Sinewitz. I have a few questions. And I'm
2 such a layperson at this, I apologize if I
3 need to dumb it down a little, but --

4 Dave or Dan, can you come up, please?
5 Where do we pump the water to? Where's the
6 water going?

7 MR. MURPHY: The water will be pumped right
8 over the drive into Elginwood Pond.

9 COUNCILLOR GOULD: Okay. And Elginwood
10 Pond can handle whatever water we're --

11 MR. MURPHY: It's controlled by the damn
12 down below. So it has an elevation control on
13 it, yes.

14 COUNCILLOR GOULD: And when we're ready to
15 fill it again, we pump it back in?

16 MR. MURPHY: The rainwater -- once -- once
17 we've cut off the discharge into Elginwood
18 Plan, the rainwater will ultimately fill it
19 back in. It will come back on its own.

20 COUNCILLOR GOULD: It will?

21 MR. MURPHY: Yes.

22 COUNCILLOR GOULD: Over a period of time
23 or -- obviously.

24 MR. MURPHY: It won't -- it won't be filled

1 up in a week, but it will -- it will certainly
2 come back over the course of several months.

3 COUNCILLOR GOULD: Okay. So if we have a
4 two and a half million dollar budget and we
5 don't know -- we haven't nailed the dredging
6 process yet; correct? We're still looking --

7 MR. MURPHY: We've done preliminary
8 opinions of probable costs --

9 COUNCILLOR GOULD: Okay.

10 MR. MURPHY: -- so we have a sense for what
11 it costs. We -- we've done some cost analysis
12 already and so the -- the \$300,000 has been
13 preserved for the -- the other components and
14 so the 2.2 is preserved for the dredge
15 component.

16 COUNCILLOR GOULD: So if -- we really won't
17 be able to nail it, we'll, kind of, back into
18 the amount that we do by what the dredging
19 dollars cost us?

20 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: Yes. I think
21 ultimately -- you know, we have our estimates
22 now and -- based on -- based on our research
23 and based on talking to contractors and, kind
24 of, getting a sense of the costs. But

1 ultimately once we go through the procurement
2 stage, we'll get the exact numbers when the
3 bids come in then whoever we end up --
4 whatever contractor we end up going with based
5 on those numbers we'll figure out how many
6 cubic yards we'll be able to remove.

7 So we -- we have our estimates, but of
8 course we're not going to know, you know, just
9 like any bid -- any estimate we're not going
10 to know until the exact numbers come in. So
11 they'll be some -- there'll be adjustments
12 that we're going to have to make.

13 It could be to our benefit, you know,
14 because we tried to be conservative but, you
15 know, the costs could be a little bit higher.
16 It's just going to depend on where it is when
17 we -- when we get the actual bids.

18 COUNCILLOR GOULD: Okay. Thank you. And
19 we talked about wildlife. We go in, do the
20 best we can to get the wildlife out. What
21 happens to some of the wildlife that we don't
22 get?

23 MR. MURPHY: This project will be very
24 carefully reviewed by both DEP, the Corps,

1 Fisheries and Wildlife in particular, who will
2 be very concentrated on -- on addressing the
3 permit conditions and how -- what -- how the
4 contractor will work to address that wildlife.

5 We will do everything possible within the
6 boundaries of what's -- what's feasible and
7 what's -- what's allowable with the DEP and
8 with Fisheries and Wildlife to preserve that.
9 So we'll do the absolute best we can and use
10 the best practices available in -- in the
11 area.

12 COUNCILLOR GOULD: Okay. Thank you,
13 Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Dan and Dave.

14 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Councillor Walsh?

15 COUNCILLOR WALSH: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
16 Chairman. I just have a couple of questions.
17 The first one is the two gentlemen who were
18 talking about the fringe area. And what I'm
19 curious about is the plant life that's in that
20 area and what happens -- you know, Stu
21 referred to the fact that because the -- the
22 lake is so shallow that the plants grow.

23 So when you're in the fringe area the plant
24 life will continue to grow, but will that

1 ultimately grow back in?

2 MR. BUTTRICK: So one of the goals with
3 dredging, as Stu mentioned, is to get the pond
4 deep enough at the center that the plant life
5 won't -- won't be able to colonize down there.
6 So there may be areas along the shoreline, as
7 the pond bottom slopes down, where the plant
8 life may grow.

9 Once it's a sandier bottom, then that may
10 inhibit some of the growth to some extent. So
11 there will be a fringe of vegetative wetlands
12 that's going to be left alone to reduce the
13 impacts of the project. And then those may
14 recolonize out to some extent, but we don't
15 expect it would be anywhere near as extensive
16 as it is right now.

17 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Councillor Walsh?

18 COUNCILLOR WALSH: Yes. Thank you. Just a
19 couple of other questions. Getting back to
20 the hospital mufflers. Are you talking about
21 machinery that's going to operate on a 24/7
22 basis? Will that be for the hundred days or
23 will that -- or is it a longer period of time?

24 MR. BUTTRICK: We don't anticipate that

1 equipment would be needed 24/7 for the full
2 100 days. Our expectation is that that would
3 be at the initial phases of the project. Our
4 specification that we would use for dewatering
5 would say in a -- you know, pumps or other
6 equipment could be no louder than -- I forget
7 what the number is -- 69 decibels at, you
8 know, a 100-foot distance or something like
9 that. So that would apply to that equipment.

10 COUNCILLOR WALSH: Okay. Just for
11 comparison, as Councillor Gould talked about,
12 just so we understand -- I'm not dummying down
13 or whatever your phrase was -- but in
14 comparison to say an 18-wheeler with a
15 refrigerator unit on it, is this louder, is it
16 quieter?

17 MR. BUTTRICK: That's a good question and
18 I'm not an expert on -- on those kinds of
19 issues, but we could look into that and
20 definitely get back to that as the project
21 progresses.

22 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Sharon? We --
23 experience with Aggregate? Anything?

24 MS. CAMERON: (INAUDIBLE). I can't really

1 give an estimate on how loud a truck is, but I
2 do know that the DEP standard is that you
3 wouldn't want the equipment to be raising the
4 level about 10 decibels above the background.
5 That's the general standard.

6 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: I can't --

7 MS. CAMERON: And -- and Aggregate meets
8 that standard. Aggregate, when the quarry is
9 operating, it generally raises the noise level
10 in the neighborhood between about 3 and
11 7 decibels above the background.

12 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: And there's --
13 they're coming with 18-wheelers all day long.

14 COUNCILLOR WALSH: Right, but not at night.

15 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Good point.

16 COUNCILLOR WALSH: So we do have to be
17 cognizant of that. And just my last
18 question -- whoever wants to answer this -- is
19 what type of contingency plan do we have?
20 We're talking about a several month project,
21 trucks for 100 days. But if we ended up next
22 year with a winter anything close to what we
23 had this past winter, I would expect --

24 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: (INAUDIBLE.)

1 COUNCILLOR WALSH: I knew you'd love that
2 one, Mr. Mayor -- I would expect that there
3 would be some type of delays and how does that
4 affect the project? How does that affect the
5 cost?

6 MR. BUTTRICK: That's a very good question.
7 And, you know, that is a possible scenario.
8 We wouldn't expect it to affect the cost based
9 on how we set up our contract documents, but
10 it could definitely extend the project's
11 duration.

12 COUNCILLOR WALSH: Thank you.

13 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Councillor Saslaw?

14 COUNCILLOR SASLAW: Thank you. So I
15 understand we've secured 2 and a half million
16 dollars in total funding and you mentioned
17 that Senator Lovely is trying to secure a
18 \$400,000 bond bill. My question, is that
19 fund -- are those funds -- would they be used
20 for overruns? Would they be used for
21 Elginwood Pond?

22 I notice I saw a slide about outdoor
23 recreational improvements of \$300,000 so I'm
24 just trying to understand that \$400,000 -- if

1 we're able to secure it, what are you looking
2 to do with it?

3 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: Thank you, Councillor.
4 And -- and Senator Lovely, along with
5 representative Cole, and -- and Speliotis are
6 fighting for that money for us. I anticipate
7 that money is going to go to our dredging
8 needs and -- and to our overall costs separate
9 and apart from the enhancements that we've
10 identified.

11 We've put a number of \$300,000 on that.
12 Everything else I expect will go to dredging.
13 And, you know, I look at Crystal Lake and
14 Elginwood Pond really as one. We're starting
15 with Crystal Lake, but Elginwood Pond is very
16 much on our minds and -- and, you know, if
17 this all worked out and we were able to -- to
18 secure that additional money, then we
19 certainly want to attack Elginwood Pond as
20 well.

21 So again it's going to be something we have
22 to see over time how this unfolds, what the
23 costs are -- the first costs are, but we
24 certainly want to attend to Elginwood Pond as

1 well.

2 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Also, Councillor
3 Saslaw, one of the things we were trying to do
4 is get Elginwood pre-permitted at the same
5 time as we did Crystal. But every time we dig
6 more into the money, we take away from the
7 original project; so I think once it, kind of,
8 starts moving forward, we're going to get an
9 idea where we are financially and hopefully,
10 if there's money left, that's going to go --
11 put into a fund for Elginwood -- I would
12 assume it would go into a fund for Elginwood
13 and we then we'd start trying to raise, you
14 know, what we need to take care of that lake.

15 Councillor Gravel?

16 COUNCILLOR GRAVEL: Thank you, Mr.
17 Chairman. Gee, I wish we had all the
18 consulting study money back. When the -- when
19 I started on the council eight years ago, I
20 remember the first thing Tim gave me was a
21 pile of reports that dated back to the early
22 60's and they all talked about Crystal Lake.
23 I never dreamed this day would come.

24 And I'm happy it is here and I'm -- I

1 appreciate all the effort that's been -- been
2 put in by the -- our delegation from the
3 state, as well as the councillors here who
4 voted for the additional money to get this
5 project to finally move forward. By the way,
6 this was our -- I think in keeping count, we
7 took three votes in total on bringing the
8 money in: Two were ignored and you finally
9 listened to us; so we appreciate it. Of
10 course, I think that's because you came from
11 us.

12 I'm a little concerned about the 20 to 25
13 truck trips per day because that's a lot of
14 trucks. I mean, if you think about an
15 eight-hour workday, that's, you know, roughly
16 three trucks per hour. That's quite a bit of
17 noise, but I guess we'll grit our teeth and
18 hope that the constituents will be patient
19 while we do that.

20 I would ask that -- I don't know who does
21 the Web site for the building project for the
22 Higgins, but I found that to be a -- a great
23 resource when you go to -- you can pick up
24 meeting minutes, presentations, and all sorts

1 of information. I would ask that one thing be
2 added to this particular Web site -- more than
3 just comments, etc. -- but the project
4 schedule and updates monthly where we stand
5 and where we are against, not only time but
6 the budget; so we have an early and often
7 indicator about how well we're doing and how
8 we're going to come in.

9 I mean, I find sometimes it's -- it's a
10 little sad that, you know, we -- we go
11 aggressively after something and then we get
12 there and everybody thinks that things are
13 going to get done in a certain period of time
14 and they don't. I think it will be healthy
15 for the city and for the citizens in general
16 to be able to see exactly where we are in the
17 process and, you know, how far along we are --
18 we are and when we expect to finish on a
19 regular basis that they can go right to the
20 site and see it. So if we could just add that
21 to our -- our Web site wish.

22 And clearly having a -- rather than e-mail,
23 it would be nice to have a little bit of a
24 blog area that you could, you know, make

1 comments on to -- if you had questions, that
2 you could have a discussion area. I know
3 there's always mixed feelings about that
4 because people are afraid of what people are
5 going to say, but in the interest of
6 transparency sometimes that is really good to
7 have, you know, so you get the real feelings
8 of people.

9 So just those comments. And I really
10 appreciate what's happening here and I can't
11 wait to see us start. Thank you.

12 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Thank you, Councillor
13 Gravel. Your point is well taken about the
14 truck trips and that's why obviously we're
15 working closely with the police. But, you
16 know, I don't -- I'm -- until we get -- hire
17 that dredger and figure out what the plan is
18 going to be, you know, there could be no truck
19 trips until after school has begun and end it
20 before school gets out -- that type of thing.

21 And I don't know what that does to
22 production, but I'm sure we'll -- we'll be
23 able to -- to work it out.

24 Ted? Come on up, Ted.

1 State Rep. Ted Speliotis would like to
2 speak.

3 COUNCILLOR GRAVEL: By the way, a truck
4 emits 90 decibels of noise when it's loaded --
5 a 50-foot truck, according to Google.

6 STATE REP SPELIOTIS: My name is Ted
7 Speliotis, I'm the State Rep. in West Peabody.
8 I -- I don't know how many of you folks have
9 actually gone through a dredging project.
10 I've gone through a fairly large number of
11 them because I -- I represent a district that
12 has inland rivers from the ocean.

13 Easiest way to describe it to a layman is I
14 represent the Danversport Yacht Club and a
15 number of yacht clubs on that river that need
16 for their economic vitality to have that river
17 dredged; so every few years the legislative
18 delegation has to come through for money to
19 dredge those rivers.

20 I can honestly tell you -- and one thing
21 that's very encouraging this evening -- is to
22 say that the sediments are clean. That's not
23 the case in the rest of my district. And when
24 the sediments are not clean, that means the

1 odor is much stronger, that means DEP comes in
2 and says, "You cannot dredge in summer months.
3 You cannot dredge" --

4 For example, Councillor Gould mentioned
5 the -- the fish and the wildlife. The -- the
6 discretion is far less than people realize for
7 the -- for the people doing the dredging
8 because if there are certain spawning seasons,
9 weeks you can't dredge during that time
10 either. I would imagine all of these are far
11 less of an impact at -- at this -- at Crystal
12 Lake than it is in a normal river.

13 You should have much less vegetation, much
14 less wildlife, much less pollutant-type issues
15 than you do in a regular river. Not to say
16 that this isn't a beautiful thing that -- I
17 mean, I drive it by it, you know, every week
18 and there's an awful lot of vegetation, but in
19 relative terms it -- this should be an easier
20 project for that.

21 The water's more contained and everything.
22 But the point is that if you'll -- all I'm
23 trying to say to you is the one advantage the
24 residents have is that there's all the

1 encouragement in the world to dredge this when
2 all the people -- during the winter months and
3 the cold months when the windows are shut,
4 you're not using your pools, and that; so the
5 impact on the neighborhood is far less than it
6 is on a normal construction project.

7 So I just, kind of, throw that out just
8 something for you to realize if you've never
9 encountered it. And we can discuss that
10 later. But thanks.

11 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Thank you, Ted. And
12 Ted brings up a good point. We did
13 preliminary core samples for the lake and
14 there was -- they were pretty good. There was
15 some minor levels that were a little bit. But
16 if the lake had sediment that was highly
17 contaminated, it would be a major problem
18 cost-wise because now we have to dispose of it
19 in a different way at a much higher cost; so
20 it's looking good on those core samples so...

21 Thank you, Ted.

22 Councillor McGinn?

23 COUNCILLOR MCGINN: Thank you, Mr.
24 Chairman. Just a quick question for you

1 actually. I think what I heard you say is
2 that you're going to try to pre-permit the
3 Elginwood part of this in hopes that when the
4 funding is identified there'd be an
5 opportunity to proceed with that part of it.

6 And I was just wondering what -- what is
7 that window of opportunity? How long would
8 those permits last? I know there's a number
9 of permits so I -- they're probably not all
10 the same duration, but --

11 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: Once Senator Lovely and
12 Representatives Cole and Speliotis get that
13 additional \$2.5 million that they've been
14 promising us, then we'll be -- we'll be in
15 great shape for Elginwood.

16 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: We -- the plan was to
17 do the permitting at Elginwood, but at this
18 point we just -- we don't want to take the
19 money away from Crystal Lake to do that. So
20 as of right now it's not on the table and, you
21 know, I'm disappointed about that, but I -- I
22 just -- I don't think we can spare the money
23 taking away from Crystal Lake at this point.

24 COUNCILLOR MCGINN: Okay. So I

1 misunderstood. There -- there is not going to
2 be -- we're not pursuing the permits.

3 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: That was the goal at
4 the beginning and it just --

5 MR. MURPHY: One brief exception to that.
6 One of permits is through the Secretary of
7 Environmental Affairs -- the MEPA permit.
8 When we file that -- it's the threshold
9 clearinghouse permit -- we will include
10 Elginwood Pond in that clearance certificate,
11 but the 401, the 404's, and the local we just
12 can't afford it effectively.

13 MS. O'NEIL: Hi. Tracey O'Neil. I just
14 have one quick question because I'm a huge
15 tree-hugger. So when I look at the picture of
16 your recreational space, is all of that space
17 that looks like grass currently trees?

18 COUNCILLOR GOULD: Yes.

19 MS. O'NEIL: Boo. All of that on the
20 right-hand side -- are you taking down like
21 all of the woods for us to play?

22 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: No. Are you talking to
23 the left side here where the --

24 MS. O'NEIL: No. On the right-hand side.

1 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: On the right-hand --
2 no, no. That's not -- we're not touching
3 that. The woods area?

4 MS. O'NEIL: The woods.

5 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: On, no, we're not
6 touching the woods. The only area that we
7 will be removing some trees -- and there's not
8 going to be many because most of it is just
9 small brush and --

10 MS. O'NEIL: Yep.

11 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: -- is on the left-hand
12 side, kind of, where the docks are.

13 MS. O'NEIL: Okay. Okay.

14 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: No, we're not touching
15 the trees.

16 MS. O'NEIL: Oh, bless you.

17 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: No, no. That's woods.
18 Yeah. We're not --

19 MS. O'NEIL: Okay. That makes me feel so
20 much better.

21 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: No, we are not touching
22 that.

23 MS. O'NEIL: Okay.

24 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: Just -- just for some

1 trails. We're going to do some trails and
2 things --

3 MS. O'NEIL: Okay.

4 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: -- but not --

5 MS. O'NEIL: Okay. All right.

6 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: The staging area will
7 be to the left where -- where -- where
8 eventually the picnic area will be. Yep.
9 We're not going to mess with the woods.

10 MS. O'NEIL: Okay. Bless you. Okay. That
11 was the main concern of mine. And then just
12 driving by over the last few days -- and this
13 is a little off subject, but I think it's --
14 it's pertinent -- the brush and stuff along
15 the side of Lowell Street has umpteen
16 Hannaford bags.

17 Like there's -- there's bags all through
18 that and I was going to call City Hall if I
19 had a chance sometime this week. And I do
20 want to get in there myself and I'll clean up
21 some of it, but I was just thinking long-term
22 if maybe there could be, kind of, a fencing
23 maybe at the end of the parking lot of that
24 plaza to collect the bags, as opposed to

1 letting them go over the street and down into
2 the water because I -- there's some of them
3 floating in the water now and they're all in
4 that puckerbrush there too.

5 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: Yeah. We just --
6 that's been something -- because I drive by
7 everyday -- and that's something that's
8 noticeable. We actually just had -- on
9 Tuesday we sent over a couple of DPW guys and
10 did some cleanup there.

11 MS. O'NEIL: Okay.

12 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: Because some of the
13 markings -- there are some pink ribbons and
14 you'll -- you'll see there are some markings
15 that are because of this project. But there
16 were a number of bags that were there.

17 MS. O'NEIL: Yeah.

18 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: And -- yeah, that's
19 been a problem. You know, Hannaford being an
20 active plaza, unfortunately there's some trash
21 and debris. Yeah, I know that's been a
22 problem. So we will be continuing to actively
23 clean that area. And you're going to sign up
24 for the Peabody cleanup day coming up?

1 MS. O'NEIL: I will, yep. Yep. My kids
2 and I will be out there.

3 MAYOR BETTENCOURT: We got you in. I know
4 your name and address. I know who you are.
5 You're in trouble.

6 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Thank you, Tracey.
7 Anybody else like to speak? Joan, would you
8 like to give us an update on that bond bill?

9 STATE SENATOR LOVELY: Good evening,
10 everyone. Nice to be here. Thank you for
11 inviting me. This is really a great project
12 and, you know, certainly Joyce and the huge
13 amount of infusion money that she put into it
14 when she was the state rep certainly is to be
15 congratulated and I have some ideas of maybe
16 honoring her once this project is done.

17 But anyway with regard to the -- to the
18 bond. So the Senate actually last year
19 initiated a -- an environmental bond bill and
20 we were able to put it in on the Senate side
21 and support it on the house side of \$400,000.

22 And I want to actually read the -- the
23 exact bond language. It says, "Provided that
24 \$400,000 shall be expended for the cost of

1 hydraulic dredging, construction of
2 containment and flocculation basins, and other
3 technologies for sediment removal, disposal,
4 and aquatic invasive species control in
5 Crystal Lake and Elginwood Pond in the city of
6 Peabody."

7 So we did include Elginwood Pond in there
8 with this \$400,000. Now a bond is an
9 authorization, not an appropriation. So we
10 actually now have to go through the Executive
11 Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
12 to -- and to the governor. The governor
13 actually will -- is -- is the person that
14 authorizes the bond.

15 So my office, together with the reps'
16 offices are working with the EOEEA to put this
17 project into their five-year capital plan that
18 they're actually putting together right now.
19 And they're looking for shovel-ready projects
20 and this is a shovel-ready project.

21 So I'd like to actually get this PowerPoint
22 presentation, all of the details from Tighe &
23 Bond -- excuse me -- and probably through the
24 permitting process over to EOEEA so that they

1 can see that this is a shovel-ready project
2 and that it should be included into their
3 five-year capital plan and then the governor
4 -- they'll authorize -- the governor will be
5 authorized to go out and bond for it -- for
6 that money. So we're working on that as we --
7 as we speak. We're working very closely with
8 both reps' offices.

9 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Thank you, Joan.

10 Leah, would you -- we've heard from two of
11 our delegation. You're the third.

12 STATE REP COLE: Good evening, everyone.
13 Thank you for inviting me here as well. It's
14 great to be here. I'm glad that the City
15 Council, Councillor Sinewitz, and the mayor is
16 offering this public forum for this
17 discussion.

18 We are -- obviously as the Senator and
19 Representative Spiliotis said, we're working
20 all together -- the three of us as the city's
21 delegation are working together to get this
22 bond money released. I actually had a meeting
23 on Tuesday with the governor's office to make
24 sure that they knew that this was a priority

1 for the city of Peabody, something that I want
2 to keep on their radar.

3 And under the new administration we have a
4 great relationship with the new Secretary of
5 Environmental Affairs, being that he was a
6 former republican representative. So I am
7 very optimistic that we can work to get at
8 least a portion of this money released and
9 will work -- keep you updated on that as well.

10 So thank you for having me here tonight and
11 I look forward to continuing to work on this
12 project. Thank you.

13 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Thanks, Leah.
14 Anybody else like to speak? Okay. If there's
15 no one else -- if there's no else, I'd just
16 like to finish up. Has everybody signed
17 the -- we have a signup sheet so we can get
18 your phone and emails and -- we want to keep
19 that -- lines of communication, a lot of
20 transparency. We want to let people know
21 what's going on during this project. Nothing
22 hidden. We want to -- so just please sign up.

23 And I want to finish with this. The city
24 and all the departments, you know, will work

1 together to protect our environment, protect
2 our water supply, and do their best and
3 protect our wildlife. And it's going to be a
4 great project. I want to thank everybody for
5 coming. And we appreciate the support.

6 And at this time I'll entertain a motion to
7 adjourn.

8 COUNCILLOR GRAVEL: So moved.

9 COUNCILLOR SINEWITZ: Thank you.

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