

City of Moulton  
Work Session Minutes  
May 9, 2022

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Weatherwax for the purpose of discussing the taste and odor issues with the Water.

Cassandra Lee had requested to speak first. Ms. Lee wanted to talk about Mckelvey Park – she said there are a lot of issues out there with water pressure and the bathrooms are not a good place to use. She wanted to see what could be done about the pressure problems. She had gotten a copy of the American Rescue Plan Money, she believes a lot of that can be used for Parks. According to Ms. Lee we have over \$225,000.00 in that fund. Mayor Weatherwax was ask if Deangelo McDaniel had talked to him about it and what did he know about it. Mayor Weatherwax stated to Ms. Lee that he would talk to Deangelo McDaniel about it but tonight was about the taste and odor issues. Ms. Lee reaffirmed that at Work Sessions anything could be talked about, and she wanted to know had Mayor Weatherwax spoken to Deangelo McDaniel about the park pressure issues. Mayor Weatherwax told Ms. Lee he had not but would speak to him about it.

Stanley Nichols the Chief Water Plant Operator who holds a Grade IV water certification was introduced by Mayor Weatherwax to speak first on the issues of the water taste and odor and what is being done.

Mr. Nichols has worked for the City of Moulton for 18 years and has been the Chief Operator/Plant Manager for a little over a year. He informed everyone that all the operators at the City of Moulton Water Plant are Grade IV Water Operators who are certified by the State. They work 24/7 at the Plant and they are the only ones that can make process changes at the Plant. They can't do what anyone else would suggest --- such as the Mayor. What has been being done is the normal testing that is required by the state – hourly, daily – morning/evening which are compiled into a monthly report turned into the state. All reports are reviewed by the state and looked at to make sure everything is in compliance with no violations of the things that are required. The taste and odor issues are considered a nuisance – problem with citizens ascetics it is not a regulation so therefore it means there are no compliances for taste and odor, but he agreed that he doesn't like those issues either just like everyone else. He assured them that he has the same water at his house. To try to solve this issue there has continued to be testing by samples being sent to Auburn – the last 2 mths they

were not done because of monitoring the algae growth to see if it is going to continue to be a problem. Taste and odor have been an issue in the past normally happens when temperature changes occur with the seasons, but it is lasting longer now than in the past. Mr. Nichols went to Bear Creek where the same engineering firm that built our plant back in 1969 O'Toole built their plant in 1978. Everyone who is on a private lake has taste and odor problems it is less noticeable on rivers due to the movement of the water. In an enclosed body of water when the algae bloom it stays and stays. At Bear Creek they have a set-up similar to what has been suggested to use by our state engineer through ADEM – Amy White, one thing that they use is Copper Sulfate – we also use Copper Sulfate, but they use it at their intake which gives them a greater contact time of 40 minutes to an hour before mixing with other chemicals – this has solidified their issues. We use the Copper Sulfate at our Flash Mix – so it is mixed at the same time as all the other chemicals. Since it doesn't allow for more contact time the way we do the process he is looking into putting our Copper Sulfate in at the intake to allow more time. After talking to Amy White some of her suggestions were to do these at the Raw Water Intake: Hydrogen Peroxide, Copper Sulfate, Chlorine Dioxide(which we use at the Flash mix-to combat disinfectant by products), powder activated carbon(there are two types of carbon: powder and granular(more expensive) but the granular could be put after our current filters once it is used and filled it would have to be refired and that is a process which would need to be done at a cost of \$90,000.00 per filter – this is cost from another treatment plant(West Morgan) our filters could be smaller and not cost as much not sure. Potassium or Sodium Permanganate are other suggestions we currently use these --- all these chemicals are oxidants (takes things out of the water and burns it up). Hydrogen Peroxide was another suggestion – we have been doing this for the last month it has helped but it hasn't fixed the issues. He explained that he is trying to keep concentrations down low, so it is a constant trial and error procedure. Amy White also said it would work better at the Raw Water Intake. Since the Hydrogen Peroxide has been suggested to be at the Raw Water Intake the parts have just come in to be able to do this and we should be able to start that process there soon along with being able to do the Copper Sulfate there because we already do those chemicals and by doing it this way would allow more contact time which has proven to work at other plants. The Council had also agreed that we would treat the Lake, so Mr. Nichols has arranged for the Copper Sulfate to be sprayed on May 16<sup>th</sup> this has been done in the past 3 times and it has worked Amy White suggested that this been done at least once a year. Mr. Nichols stated that earlier it had been suggested to treat the Lake, but it didn't happen. The Chief Operator before Mr. Nichols had suggested treating the Lake and the Superintendent didn't want to do it, so it wasn't done. He

wasn't sure why the Superintendent didn't want to treat the lake but knew he was looking at Plant Expansion. Plant Expansion will fix it but that is 5-6 years down the road. Mr. Nichols has all these things in the works, he has been talking with the Kelley Engineering Group who have been trying to get Grants for the projects that are needed...Mr. Nichols stated that the Plant definitely needed upgrading – it is a 1969 Plant which has had minimum upgrades which has been going on for years – out of 18 years only one upgrade to the high service pumps. Kelley Group is suggesting a Pilot Program where they bring a portable – water plant on a trailer which has valves that can be used to add and change different sources of process to narrow down if not pinpoint which process is needed to treat the water coming from our lakes to control the taste and odor issues – the Council had already been made aware of this option so this is probably the next step to use because in doing upgrades there will be more regulations and all this needs to be considered and some of those will probably be PFOS and PFAST. Reverse Osmosis is the most expensive and also the most efficient at removing everything and there would be no taste and odor issue either. Mr. Nichols stated that what he has spoken about is what has been going on behind the scenes and that these things take time, processes, grant money... and it is not a simple quick fix. Mr. Nichols introduced Darrell Brewer who is from Alabama Rural Water to speak to the ones present. Alabama Rural Water is a nonprofit organization which helps water systems throughout Alabama with many things whether it be regulations, find major leaks, taste and odor any process that goes on with water. The problem we know is geosmin algae.

Mr. Brewer introduced himself and said that Stanley was right on track – traveling the state he has 172 water systems that he helps. Plants on the river has the flow they don't have the same problems there is time to time a little issue. With the Lakes there aren't a whole lot you can do about it. All the samples from the Moulton Plant have come back good. From the time it gets to the plant to the time it gets to your faucet it is tested. Chlorine is tested daily. Moving the Chemicals to being put in at the intake is a good move because it is a long way from the lake back to the plant giving it time to react – it should help out tremendously with taste and odor. As the lake is treated there will be more testing that will be needed (daily, weekly, monthly) – Stanley stated that this would be with Auburn to make sure that this process is working it will also be taking samples at different depths to see what the copper sulfate is doing. Mr. Brewer stated that Algae can get immune to Copper but as long as it has been he feels that the Copper Sulfate spraying will work but that is the key to the testing. The first stage of testing will be to make sure the dosage is right. Regulations change to stay ahead of the ballgame – the reverse osmosis takes everything out

of the water sometimes you must put minerals back into it. The City of Moulton will not have to have near the system that East Lawrence West Morgan had to have. The Moulton plant is pushing at capacity right now of 3.3 million gallons per day. That is pushing every drop that can come thru it now and that is what the plant is permitted at. Stanley said we are rated at 3.3 but because of our lines we can only push the pressure at 84lbs because the infrastructure is old, and it will cause line breaks. Stanley Nichols said he had seen where people were saying why don't we sell more water to West Lawrence --- Look at the money we are losing... Well, part of the reason is if you saw the level of the tanks in the summer months of the level that they are out if we sell more water to West Lawrence, we have no water here.

Brent White spoke up to the comments that were being made and stated that all these things that have been talked about have already been talked about and approved to do.... 2 weeks ago, at a meeting on pilot program. Everything you've talked about the previous Superintendent had talked about getting an upgrade. He (Brent) had talked to the engineers too and they had said that as soon as you started treating the other day it would cause discoloration and more problems if you don't start treating it at the sight you're talking about. Stanley said the "Engineers that wants big dollars." Brent said I'm sure "Lawyers and other folks don't want big dollars just to keep dragging this crap out". He said he was just saying we had a plan; we've got a plan. I'd like to think that this normally takes care of itself after a month or so but this is the longest I've known of it to get bad and stay. He understands that but we have had this plan all along to take water to Auburn, to take water to make sure it is safe for consumption, to upgrade the whole system, which he understands that we had been working with the Kelley Group and West Lawrence to do. All these things we had agreed to do – start treating the water down there the last time Stanley brought it up, let's go ahead and do it --- we ain't done it yet...how many times we gonna talk about it. Stanley told him that it is on schedule for the 16<sup>th</sup> of May --- oh ok Brent stated so you already got that lined up yea, yea you gave us that date. But to him (Brent) if we don't do anything it might get better, but we don't want it to just get better we want to see if we can fix it and that is what our goal is and has been all along. We talk about we couldn't sell West Lawrence Water more water... well why couldn't we... the line we had running straight from East Lawrence West Morgan to West Lawrence that we could always use and could sell West Lawrence the water from East Lawrence West Morgan at a higher rate possibly if we get short of our water... and they have agreed to that. Stanley stated that engineers are working on connecting that line and that is distribution not the Water Plant. Brent said he knew that but that they had already talked about all these things and come up

with a plan instead of starting and stopping follow through with this that the engineer and Jay had before whatever happened to him happened...hopefully that will get taken care of but he thought that the people present had legitimate concerns and it is the same ones that we have had forever and every now and again taste and odor will get off. It happens everywhere but usually takes care of itself, but Jay and the engineers have always said we need to upgrade the whole system, whole treatment plant, and lines and everything else. They have been working towards that towards getting grant money, Jay got a million-dollar grant something a year or so ago – in a meeting the other day agreed to spend \$200,000.00 to start that pilot project that you're talking about out at the Plant. Then we act like we got to start all over again talking about it again...people been working on this spending a lot of time coming up with these ideas...we don't need to keep talking about over and over we just need to do them if we can.

Mayor Weatherwax spoke up and said that the pilot program needs to be done from his understanding the last 2 months of the summer and the last 2 months of the fall. Stanley Nichols spoke up and said that the pilot program is trying to be done where you see summer and fall months.... Brent stated that Mayor Weatherwax had told him that the other day and that was the reason why it wouldn't matter if they approved the pilot program at that meeting or at one in the future because it wouldn't be done now. Stanly Nichols spoke up and said he wanted a Water Treatment Plant upgrade worse than anybody. Because he must deal with it. Brent White said I think politics gets involved in this stuff to dang much...but he wasn't saying that it is, but he certainly wasn't saying that it is not. This is something that has been talked about forever and working towards forever and to him – West Lawrence is our best customer and he thinks they have been a good customer – and the fact that they have agreed to help with the cost of anything that we have to do to upgrade our whole plant and system if we work with this engineering and come up with a plan it increases our likelihood of us getting grant money and I think we have been told that – we have talked about this... (Stanley)What is the next step? He said maybe he didn't understand but we are trying to figure out what is best, and they have to build this test pilot.

Brent said, We agreed the other night that the next 2 steps would be that we could use the million dollar money that Jay was able to help us get: 1) was to fix the line coming from East Lawrence West Morgan --- even if we don't go into an agreement with West Lawrence we might have a disaster and our only water supply from the plant could be damaged causing us to not have any water. There are lots of reasons we should have repaired that line as soon as it broke 3 or 4 months ago, and I really don't know why we didn't and that's ok. But I thought

we agreed to fix that line and 2) start this pilot program and to explain to everybody what we have got going on and let the Kelley Group continue to work to try to hopefully hear from Montgomery – and we might get several million dollars you never know until you get it. But if we do that will be a start. The working relationship we have with West Lawrence if we haven't already screwed it up that they have pretty well agreed that hey they are in a bind they are gonna have to get a lot more water and we are in a bind trying to get our taste and odor stuff situated and he talked to somebody at ADEM one time, and they said if we work together with a rural co-op a so much better likelihood of getting funded. So he thought that was what we are trying to do and it takes a little time, he hopes that the people understand: if we start this pilot thing and treat the lake that that is 2 things we are doing right now that might deal with the taste and odor until we can get something else going. We keep backing up and starting again and he said he had his reasons for why we are but. Cassandra Lee ask so can we start treating the Lake – Stanley replied that is already scheduled. A citizen ask who stopped that the first time? Supervisor didn't want to do that. Was that what you said Stanley? It was suggested to the supervisor, and he didn't want to do it. The citizen stated he had been here for 14 years now and never had this problem – Brent said that it had happened in the past just didn't last this long. He said he heard Stanley say that we had treated the lake each time, Stanley corrected him by saying not each time but 3 times and all 3 times it worked. Brent stated there had been years it wasn't treated and then there were years that they didn't want to spend anymore money at the time. Stanley said it is really hard to tell the difference between a lake flip over and an algae bloom. The only way you know is to wait and see if it goes away within a month is lake flip over longer than that is probably an algae bloom. The same citizen ask this has been going on for over than a month why haven't we treated the Lake. Brent said that they met about a month ago and approved the money and that Stanley had been trying to line it up. Jason White spoke up and said he thought the gentleman was trying to say that why was it not done before that...if the other 3 times it worked then why wasn't it done this time. The citizen wanted to know who the supervisor is – Johnson? Cassandra Lee spoke up and stated that Roger is his supervisor. Cassandra Lee spoke again and said Jay is the employee and Mayor is his supervisor. Mayor Weatherwax said that Mr. Johnson is the supervisor. The citizen ask the Mayor if he was the supervisors boss? Then Mayor Weatherwax stated that he was correct. The next question from the citizen was if Jay didn't want this done why he didn't fix it. Mayor Weatherwax responded that Mr. Johnson is more intelligent about the Water and that he depends on the supervisors to make decisions. The citizen said but it had worked every time before then.... Brent White addressed the citizen as Perry, usually

there as been years that we treated and it fixed pretty quick there has been other years we didn't worry about it and it would get better on its on pretty quick this is the first time it has ever got to the point that it got bad and stayed bad awhile and by this time that's when Stanley came and said ok we have got to try something different. At the last meeting we all agreed to go ahead and do it – Ms Lee said that was about a month ago. Denise Lovett said she looked back in the minutes on the minutes on the minutes on the minutes on the minutes on February 24, 2020 that the Council in a Work Session addressed taste and odor and Jay said that testing and studies are being done to fix the problem and that was 2 years ago, so nothing a third party testing was done when people were saying things about bleaching so this is not something that has happened in the last few months. This was February 24, 2020 in a Work Session that is was addressed and the citizen(Perry) said this has been going on a long time, he said that Copper Sulfate should have been put in the Lake and tried in 2020. Stanley said there are other processes that have been tried at the Treatment Plant to keep from using Copper Sulfate which was suggested, but the other process is using it Copper Sulfate at the treatment plant, Potassium permanganate, these are the things that Amy White of the State Department had recommended be done. Potassium Permanganate at the lake, also Hydrogen Peroxide – Stanley went to Arab to see that process they use to treat taste and odor. They have no issues with the water causing rust or whatever to come off the lines because it oxidizes, making the water discolored. Cassandra Lee said even though what Denise said she wanted to say that we have been doing stuff to try and take care of this issue. Stanley spoke up and said we have been trying the less expensive routes. Cassandra wanted everyone to understand that things had been being done and that the person in that position had been coming giving updates on what he was doing. Chlorine dioxide is another way to treat taste and odor then trying Copper Sulfate. Another citizen ask Stanley what he called it a nuisance – she stated that it was more than a nuisance when you can't even or coffee at your house with the water here in town. Mr. Nichols told her the state is the one who refers to it as a nuisance. You can't go to a restaurant and order tea because of the taste. Mr. Nichols said he understood he eats and goes to the same places as everyone else. The gentleman that had been speaking earlier said his point is that this started in 2020, he was stopped by Brent White who said no this started a long time before that – to which the gentleman stated then it is worse if it has been going on longer.... Brent said it has been treated numerous occasions – the citizen stated but it wasn't this time. Brent said but that was what they were working on other things to try to lower it. Cassandra Lee said process of elimination is what he said. Ms. Roper spoke up and said she gets it it is like if you look at it like a medical situation – like your back, is broke or whatever they are

gonna draw blood then x ray, CT scan, aspirin...etc Others chimed in for two years... Ms. Roper replied I'm not saying that. Brent White ask this guy has your water tasted bad for 2 years? Brent answered his own question and said no, it got better. The gentlemen said no but it has been this way about 6 months, Bad, and it is getting worse. Joyce Jeffreys spoke up and said her water doesn't taste bad. The citizen said you can turn on the water and smell it before you get in the shower. Stanley Nichols stated that the hot water makes the smell come out more. The citizen ask if this has been approved then why isn't it getting done? Brent White said Stanley is getting it done – I knew we voted on this extra treating the Lake and he has got that lined up and that might work for a little while but the overall goal which is the long term plans that Jay and the engineers have been working on to get a total upgrade of our water system which West Lawrence has been willing to go into it with us and pay a large portion of the cost – we almost missed in January a application date to apply for 200 million dollars that has come from COVID money to work on sewer and water projects in the state. The plan was prepared and time to vote on it and our Mayor you've read in the paper told West Lawrence we weren't gonna work them anymore and weren't gonna spend anymore money on taste and odor. Ok, Cassandra Lee spoke up and said that was a delay right there. The citizen ask why would you say that Mayor. Mayor Weatherwax told him he didn't say that. What did you say? Mayor Weatherwax said he told them that we were interested in taking care of the Moulton Water Customers first and when we got the plant upgraded and we could push more water then we would sell them more water. Cassandra Lee said the thing is we almost missed the deadline. Brent White said we told them we were gonna quit selling them water which would cost us \$70,000.00 per month. Another citizens spoke up and said to Brent didn't you say they were willing to pay for half to three quarters of the cost to upgrade. Brent spoke up again and said I can't speak for them but if the engineer was here she would tell you that has been in the meetings that they found out how much Montgomery was gonna give Moulton then they would know how much additional would be needed that they would pay their share if not more. The citizen said that sounded like a win win. Brent agreed. Brent said a Water Superintendent called him one night and said Jay is out of town – probably taking samples to Auburn and that they were supposed to be meeting like September, October, November. And the meeting tomorrow but that the Mayor had called off the meeting and said that we were not going to sell them anymore water. If we can't fix things now how we gonna fix it if we cut \$70,000.00 a month out of our budget for the water system... there is a lot more here than meets the eye and I really didn't mean to get into all this stuff right now right now. But there has been a plan all along to work towards it – it just so happens that this is the worse year for taste and odor, and it seems like it is



lingering longer than it ever has and probably not probably – possibly if we don't do anything in a month or so it all the sudden will be gone away for a while but we rather fix it so it never comes back again.

Cassandra Lee said she has an issue in general managing people. She supervised for many years at the Department of Resources. You have to learn he might be knowledgeable, but I supervise you... I am accountable for whatever you didn't do, so I'm just here to say we can't be throwing people under the bus because we some of us didn't do our job. And like the money we could have lost if it had not been we as the Council would have never known and when we did go to him, he had to be spoken to by other individuals to make him understand the importance of taking it. Then he comes to the meeting to make it sound like he is going to do this. At the end of the day when you manage a City, you have to manage and be responsible for your employees so if Jay didn't do what he is supposed to do your don't do your job it impacts everybody in the City of Moulton. To her when you take on a job as a supervisor, she has been one in child welfare – if she didn't do her job a child might die. Same concept here if we don't do our job here someone might get hurt. That's on her heart and she preaches it all the time, we need to take our responsibility as the manager. If the employees aren't doing good have an evaluation – then you will have probable cause to get rid of them. We don't even do evaluations up here! She said she is probably off subject, but this is what is bothering her: when you manage the City, you manage the water, the budget all that to her ties in. So, she don't want to be throwing nobody under the bus, if you gonna throw one throw two.

I agree with that is what the citizen spoke up and said. I've worked in a plant and you have people to be responsible to up the latter. So, he directed the question to the Mayor are you the main man... Mayor Weatherwax responded Yes, Sir. Then why haven't you done something about this? Mayor Weatherwax responded that there are a lot of different things behind the scenes. The citizen said lets hear them... Mayor Weatherwax stated that those things didn't need to be discussed. The citizen said do you drink bottled water? No sir I drink it out of the faucet and it doesn't bother me at all. Another citizen ask were we not under the sunshine law where things can be discussed? About water and such – why can't you we shouldn't be kept in the dark. Mayor Weatherwax said the dark about what? The citizen said unless it is character or something like that is not what we are here to discuss. Mayor Weatherwax said that he depends on all of his supervisors to explain what their problems are and what their solutions are and they are more knowledgeable about some of those than I am and I will discuss it with them and usually the supervisors will advise him what to do or

agree with them. A citizen said they understood that but it didn't work so it falls back on the Mayor again. Ok, the Citizens says it's been going on for a year... at least and he is not trying to throw anybody under the bus either but he gets tired that every time he goes and turns on the faucet that use to be enjoyable to get a drink of water you can't stand it now. Brent White spoke up and said I know where you're coming from because I drink out of my faucet to everyday and it is the same as you do but some places have a bigger problem. Brent White said he could assure you that the water supervisor that we seem to be trying to throw under the bus is more worried about this a lot more than yall are. That's the reason him and the engineers and West Lawrence have been working on... a plan and to find out that something you had been working on was almost nipped in the bud instantly. We may not get any money out of it but if West Lawrence had not brought it to the Councils attention, then we would have missed a deadline to apply for any of those funds that are setting in Montgomery. I am just saying I ain't saying throwing the Mayor under the bus its all our faults I guess but I promise you the man that was in charge of the Water Department was doing working 60 and 70 hours a week some weeks and then we are gonna try and get him in trouble because he spent a night in a hotel on the way back from Auburn when he was about to fall asleep after taking samples because he had worked 14 I'm saying we are turning this into something it shouldn't be – Mayor and Stanley working with engineer was in a meeting the other day to get the Water line from West Morgan East Lawrence fixed no matter what, because we need it fixed because if something happened to our plant we wouldn't have a back up plan, get that done – do what Stanley is talking about doing, also get that pilot study where we bring the truck out to the plant and run the water through there while we are waiting on money from Montgomery while we are trying to upgrade our system, I thought we had a plan, it's like every time you think you've got a plan then all the sudden nobody...Stanley said I did something. Brent said Stanley did what he was told from that other meeting – went ahead and lined that up. But overall, there were a lot of things that we thought were working in the right direction then all the sudden they weren't without any real explanation. I tell you this beats all I've ever seen – I worked at DHR for 42 1/2 years and I saw a lot of crap. The way this has been handled is so unprofessional and while I'm on a roll backstabbing it is ridiculous what has been going on. And now the latest while I'm on a roll the personnel board had a hearing there heard everything there is to hear about this particular incident that occurred, and they said put Jay back to work. Jay...you know why Jay works here...when he took the supervisor job, he said I want to stay here long enough to get our system upgraded to get it where our water is great when I leave here I want to know that the people of Moulton and Lawrence county gonna have good water from now on. And that is what they

have been working towards and the deal with engineers and West Lawrence makes that a real possibility it may not work but it could have been nipped in the bud if we didn't even apply for the money that was sitting there because somebody told West Lawrence we weren't going to do business with them anymore? How crazy is that? You know you gonna stop somebody that is paying you \$80,000.00 a month I'm not selling you water anymore, an Stanley mentioned earlier we can't afford sure we couldn't sell them more water unless we fix that line that has quit running from West Morgan but they knew all along Jay has told them, that every time they have discussed it that we ain't gonna let the City of Moulton get low on water we might have to send you more East Lawrence West Morgan Water, they understand they said we understand it might cost more but we understand we are willing to do that. If we ever get our plant upgraded like it should it will produce more water the upgrade would also upgrade all these 50 year old lines we got out here, we've got three water guys fixing water lines - every day - all day - every day wide open while we got three gas guys riding around in a truck with their supervisor doing nothing. Now write that put it on the news, I mean I've had about all this crap... it is kinda ridiculous what we have put up with. I don't know what the answer would be - I think the answer would be just let Stanley do what he is doing, let Jay get back to work, the engineers and Jay keep working on what they are working on and lets move forward I kept hoping that was what we would do but apparently we are not somebody said we were trying to have another meeting with the Mayors lawyer which it's not the Cities lawyer, I'm telling you it's the Mayor's lawyer not the Cities I'm sure his cash register is continuing to run he sees us the more he keeps this stirred up we don't want this case to come to an end because I'm making \$300 or \$400 a hour as long as I can keep driving to Moulton and back. Cassandra Lee spoke up and said that he was hired for the nuisances, a different issue. The citizen ask this Johnson - guy he suppose to be rehired right... What's the hold up? Brent said yes suppose to be, but I think... the citizen ask the Mayor what is the hold up? The Mayor said I didn't understand your question. The citizen said the personnel board said put Johnson back... Brent spoke up and said we haven't had an official meeting since that recommendation was made. The Mayor said that the Council has to meet. Brent said we have a meeting next Monday night which logically would be the time to make a motion to put him back to work and start this stuff going... and Stanley has been keeping it going well and the Mayor has been in those meetings and he has agreed that we need to go ahead and follow through with these things there have been several times that this whole fix of the system has been thrown out the window - why I don't know but. The citizen ask the Mayor for a time line - when is it going to happen. The Mayor said there is no direct answer that Stanley explained that. Are you gonna give him

permission to start doing this? The Mayor stated he has permission to spray the lake. Brent said that is what has helped in the past. Stanley also spoke up and said that in the next 2 weeks or so he will be adding to the intake portion. Electricians are lined up to add receptacles. Cassandra Lee said somebody in charge needs to monitor whatever you got next and if it doesn't get done tell me why... I don't want to see this stuff stopping and going it needs to be consistent without any delays. Brent said what is aggravating that this has almost been a God Send, that's a terrible word I hope, but COVID created a lot of money that wouldn't have been there otherwise, and we have known that we needed to upgrade we have ask Stanley, Jay and Greg Dutton and everyone else that has every worked for the water department to provide us with good water with a water plant that is falling apart and water lines that are falling and busting 50 a day and they are busting but I'm sure Stanley has worked overtime for nothing, I know Jay has worked a bunch of overtime for nothing, Greg Dutton use to call me at 2:00 in the morning and ask me to go with him because he has got to climb down in a hole of water hold his breath and go under to try to fix it because he doesn't want to be out there by himself and they have done this to keep from having – they could have called in every employee they got and pay them overtime but guess what they care about Moulton they care about yall they care about getting the best bang for the tax dollar and we turn around like we want to crucify some of them sometimes, I don't understand it but all I'm saying we are at a crossroads if we will let Jay come back to work, work with the engineers, let Stanley keep doing what he is doing, follow the engineers advice – which I think the Mayor was gonna recommend do that pilot project – I think they are already been working on identifying the water lines between here and East Lawrence that need to be repaired, if we do those kinds of things who knows six months from now we may try all those things and still have bad tasting water but if we can ever get our plant upgraded – I think the Mayor said the other day something about going with the reverse osmosis and if we did that it would take care of it but hopefully this algae stuff won't be 24/7 365 days a year because it never has been. Hopefully what Stanley is gonna do is gonna help some but even if it didn't it will ease up at some point if its on its own. At least we have a plan now that hopefully will remedy it for your kids and my kids and my grandkids, but we wouldn't have any of that if people hadn't been out there busting their butt around the clock trying to get it done. Anyway you can tell I get defensive – but when I've had people Greg Dutton, Jay Johnson, Stanley - I've had people who work for the City of Moulton I've been up here a long time most people say way to long and this is probably if I don't fall dead between now and three years it will be a miracle but we these people work their butt off I've called them at 10:00 at night before just to say because I'd forget it Ms. so and so over here behind me

thinks she has a leak it may be on the City side and then they would call back 30 minutes later to say they already have it fixed. Well I don't forget stuff like that when people have been good to me and good to our citizens I ain't gonna turn my back on their butt when the rubber it gets going a little bit ruff... you know, but maybe some of them ain't been here as long as I have. We hired a generation of supervisors when I first came here after about my first term all of the older guys that had been here forever retired and my philosophy then was to try to find some people that have Lawrence County roots that live in our community and love our community and want to raise their kids in our community that want to be able to look their fellow citizens in the eye every day and be able to tell them look I'm doing everything I can with what I've got to work with and we were lucky enough to hire four or five guys that everyone of them stayed with us 25 – 30 years guess what they are all leaving this younger generation can't hold a candle to them it ain't even close. One of the citizens spoke up and said that they had seen Jay, Greg, and Daniel Jenkins work it's on their heart to fix it and they can't if its not in their hand if they don't have the money or whatever to do it with. He said he had seen Greg down in a hole, he has seen Daniel Jenkins work hours and hours of overtime for free. Greg, lord I mean he will crawl off in a hole and help anybody. He as a citizens is not upset with the Water Board – he said he didn't know Stanley but working over at that old 1968-69 plant he has been over there fishing and that people are giving him heck and it is out of his control and that you are working tirelessly but it goes back to the leaders of this City to make some choices to give you and the other guys the resources to fix this, I think that the Facebook chatter you say your seeing is coming from people will say a lot but want come to a meeting. Brent said I came across to a gentleman rude at the last meeting because he said I bet none of you drink the water and I said that I did, and he said I don't believe you – well what did he do he called me a liar – I don't care if you believe me or not I sort of semi apologized because don't call me a liar to my face because I wasn't lying.

If anybody thinks that Jay Johnson doesn't want what is best for this City then they don't know Jay and the citizen agreed with that statement that they don't know Jay. Brent also said that they don't know the opportunities that he has had to leave City where he could be making twice the amount of money, but he wants to see this project through. It is like somebody is determined for him not to – sure he has made mistakes – everybody has. We need to move forward, don't need to put off hiring Jay back, what Stanley is doing, pull truck down to plant and do that, if they conclude that the reverse osmosis is in the plan but I believe like Stanley that will be way on down the line so go ahead treat the lake, fall to winter turn over, move the truck down there, I know you worry about when you can't

cook with your water or drink it but I promise you, what if you were the one out here trying to produce this water, working your butt off around the clock and getting talked about like some of us talk about our own employees. I can't believe it to be honest with you it is ridiculous to me. A citizen said so we didn't get the money am I right... Brent White said we don't know if we will get the money but we sure wouldn't get it if we hadn't applied. Cassandra Lee said we did meet the deadline but almost missed it. The Citizen ask Mayor why was he going to cancel that - he said that our water plant will only produce so much water like Stanley said in the beginning. He was concerned about the citizens of Moulton before he was West Lawrence. Alicia Roper said he is talking about the grant. Our application was in on time. It wasn't going to – Mayor Weatherwax said yes it was always going to. Cassandra Lee spoke up and said I guess they are not being truthful. Another lady ask a question on the samples. Stanley said that we have results from the Auburn samples – the Mayor said that the Auburn samples were a choice and ADEM samples are required. Stanley said that the only purpose of the samples that are going to Auburn are a choice because we think it is an algae the water taste bad – Stanley collected at the Lake area, Jay and his guys collected from the City at houses etc. to see what is in the water – on the side of town where Cardinal etc is the worst, the Treatment plant is the best. They don't understand why it is the way it is geosmin is the problem and it is busted up as it goes through the system, and this is a theory that is why it taste more in certain areas. Treating with hydrogen peroxide the water at the plant is great but other areas are still not good. Brent said that since using the hydrogen peroxide has caused his water to be black. To combat this breaking down in the pipes they treat it with phosphate which coats the inside of the pipes and they also have used lime to bring up the ph. Hopefully by doing these treatments this will coat the pipes. When the lake is treated, he will back off these things because they don't want to have two new treatments going at the same time. The tanks are on a state schedule as to when they are inspected and painted inside and out. When the state inspector came to the plant the only things that needed to be done was on the fence, they needed a sign with a number to call, a screen was missing on the clear well that had to be replaced...when the repairs were made pictures had to be taken and sent to show the corrections. Chemicals can't be added without permission, and it is given as a trial basis from the State. Hydrogen Peroxide is on a trial for a 6-month period if it is for a long term then the Plant permit will have to include it when renewed. May 16<sup>th</sup> the air boats are treating the lake with Copper Sulfate. For the big picture if we continue to treat the lake to buy a pontoon boat to be able to do this. Stanley said that the Mayor wants to upgrade the plant. The work around is to have the water from East Lawrence West Morgan line repaired. Depending on what the pilot program shows we

might want to continue to Copper the lake. The months being considered is July, August, September and October from the engineers. Reverse Osmosis is 8 million for our part if that is what is chosen. The grant is to upgrade the plant not just specific for reverse osmosis. The grant has been a combined partnership with the water customers. The thought is that it would get funded because of the amount of water customers that will be served. It is more likely to get it and to get it sooner because it effects so many. Brent stated that they are gonna release one hunk of money first in the next month or two then they will release more, and we have applied and more money in a year or two and we will apply for that at least that is the plan. Each time we apply the likelihood of us getting is increased if we are in a co-op with West Lawrence. To work on the system and that is what the people in charge have been working on forever. Wish things happen quicker but they don't. Maybe it is a blessing in disguise that all the sudden our taste and odor is worse this year than it every has been cause maybe that will cause us to do whatever – we have always done what they would recommend but we always tell them like there was a couple of years we told...I don't know if it was Greg or Jay don't treat it this year because of the cost 20 something whatever the amount of money was because this City isn't exactly rolling in the dough sometimes especially water system we always kinda hoped that they would pay for themselves and sometimes some or those system do and sometimes they don't. And that's the reason you've got to be getting yourselves in a position, I know the engineer has told me that Jay has come to their house on weekends and night time sometimes and sat around the coffee table and work on plans to try to upgrade our system, told me they had never seen a more dedicated supervisor with any department that they have ever worked with you know, I can't ignore that kinda stuff when I'm told it. Anyway I think we have a plan and the Mayor touched on something the other day, he was talking about if it works like we hopes it does when we do get funded sure we may have to come up with our part of the project money but if things have worked like they are suppose to and we have been able to fix our distribution we will be able to sell so much more water to West Lawrence that we can use the money from extra sales to pay our part of the grant money. There is a plan and always has been a plan I'm not smart enough to since I'm not expected to do the day to day part of it but we have had people working for us that are good and that care and have really tried and nobody hates it worse than they do when taste and odor is bad or when whatever especially when they are setting there knowing that they have been trying and trying and trying for years to get upgrades and to get things done and sometimes it is us pulling a budget strings to say I'm sorry we can't do that this year we can't do this can't do that and there has been some years that taste and odor hadn't even hardly don't even really realized it. Stanley spoke up and said it really came

into effect when we had the big drought in 08 or so we were 30 feet low on our water our lake was and that either allowed more growth or put more plant life and what not into the water. Before that we hardly ever had any problems with it. A citizen spoke up and said the lake was kinda new, so you didn't have all that rotten, remembered when he walked behind the dozers when they were building it but now it's gotten older you have the algae on the bottom that rolls. Brent said and it seems like our winters and summers use to be it would go from cold to warm then in fall it would go warm to cold and if it was turning over it would turn over seemed like more quickly. Now we will have cold one night and it's like bizarre which is even more reason why we gotta attack this whole problem.

April Roper said with this the pilot program that was gonna be the charcoal at the end what did you say the last part was gonna be? Stanley said that first of all they have got to build it and build it the way that we want it. It doesn't matter what part of the process it is in – if it is on the end. April Roper ask my question deals with the filtration part of it—yall are still gonna do the Auburn testing, monthly ADEM required testing doing the Auburn and the pilot should get the exact particulates. Stanley said the sole reason for doing the Auburn testing is to try and get historical data – we know the problem it is geosmin, we know we have to pick the filtration that does geosmin but there are other taste and odor but ours is geosmin...the one that will fix it all is reverse osmosis. A citizen spoke up and said well why do we even worry about the others. And several answered cost. It is the most expensive one that there is. The next best solution is GAC but it is expensive also – because in the beginning you have to buy it all...if we do that one we plan on doing we have sand filters now (garnet stone & sand & \_\_\_\_\_) is what filters our water, so we would put the charcoal filter behind the current one and only use in bad months to save money then maybe you could extend the life of the GAC. And we probably will treat the lake so that might prolong it as well. The citizen said that reverse osmosis in the long run – if using carbon, you have to buy carbon but with reverse osmosis do you have to by anything? Reverse osmosis – Stanley said he is not real familiar – bu they have membrane filters so the sand filters at our plant would be gone and the membrane filters are on a rack, and a rack consists of 130 filters - long tubes inside those tubes are individual straw like tubes that are very small so it goes through that process first to filtration done trap taste and odor... reverse osmosis sends it back he didn't want to explain further than that because he was not versed on the reverse osmosis yet hopefully one day. It is a lot to grasp. Cassandra Lee said she wanted to make a statement before the meeting was closed but for him to finish. No more questions were ask.



Cassandra Lee said she wanted to at the very beginning some people think that what she says is petty stuff but to her is very important. The work session is about work you can talk about anything you want in a work session. She ask the Mayor if she could speak first – she knew it was going to be a long meeting. This is in her district, and it is as important as the water problem. When she ask to speak the Mayor told her that this is not what this meeting is about...she says a work session is about anything that you want to talk about. So, she wanted it documented in the minutes and on channel 19 that if she wanted to talk about something that was why she wanted to go first – because she knew it would be a long conversation – she wants it clear and the Mayor to understand that a work session covers more than one thing and her district is important to her. The water out there in that park you can't use bathroom a lot of times it is just bad so if she wants to bring that up and talk about, she has a right to do that.

Mayor Weatherwax ask if anyone else had anything else – Alicia Roper ask the Mayor that he is the Superintendent over the Gas and Water correct you are saying the supervisors bring to you the problem and solution and then you go with whatever they think best. Mayor Weatherwax said yes, we discuss it. So, the extra title for the extra money you receive for being the superintendent not knowing anything about either one of the departments. Yes, I guess so was the Mayors reply. So, we are paying you 48,000 or whatever a year at a time to be over them to bring you their suggestions and solutions. The Mayor stated that most Mayors that are elected are not versed on those things they have to learn them as they go. Brent spoke up and said that is not unusual a lot of towns get named Superintendent of Utilities sometimes just to justify giving them enough of a pay raise to get people to run for election. If the Mayor had to get by on the portion of the salary, they receive for being Mayor. Cassandra Lee stated that you still should be versed in your second term. A citizen ask who was the Water Superintendent now. Mayor Weatherwax stated that Greg Flanagan was the number 2 guy, and he is acting as superintendent. Brent spoke up and said that him and his guys have 5,000 water leaks. He had reported a leak to Greg earlier and he said it might be on his list, but they had been working. Sometimes things they do can cause issues, from the plant side due to the age of pipes etc. The citizen said he is a acting supervisor – but he is also working.

Mayor Weatherwax spoke to Alicia Roper and said I don't know of a school that has a degree in how to be a Mayor or Councilmember. Most people setting up here have never done it before and it is a new thing, and they just try to depend on each other and depend on supervisors. She said she understood that they vote collectively on stuff. Cassandra Lee said we don't manage.

A citizen spoke up to the subject of the park that Ms. Lee had spoke about and she said that she has grandchildren, and it is coming the time of the year when they will be being frequented more and that will be a big issue. Ms. Lee stated that is why she had wanted to talk about the issue. Ms. Lee said that she would love to be a part of the meeting between Deangelo and the Mayor because it is her district. The Mayor said if he is informed he would check up on it. Stanley said he didn't know what would fix that unless a booster station or bigger line... Ms. Lee said but it needs to be discussed. Stanley agreed.

Mayor Weatherwax thanked everyone for coming.

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Roger Weatherwax, Mayor

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Deroma Pepper, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brent White, Council

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Joyce Jeffreys, Council

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Cassandra Lee, Council

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Denise Lovett, Council

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Jason White, Council