Mayor Claudia Cubillos: Thank you for being here this evening. Today is Tuesday, November 27th. It is 7:06 PM and I’d like to go ahead and call the November council meeting to order. If we could please have a moment of silent meditation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

All: I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Cubillos: Thank you. Madam clerk, may I please have roll call?

Madam Clerk Yenise: Roll call, Mayor Cubillos.

Cubillos: Here.

Yenise: Vice Mayor Nickerson.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Here.

Yenise: Councilperson Mathis.

Councilperson Mathis: Present.

Yenise: Councilperson Dreher.

Councilperson Dreher: Here.

Yenise: Councilperson Roman.

Councilperson Roman: Here.

Yenise: You have a quorum. Also, present for the record Yenise Jacobi, village clerk, Christia Alou, village manager, Norman Powell, interim village attorney, Jose Perez, interim chief, Irwin Williams, CFO.

Cubillos: Great, thank you. At this time before I ask for approval of the agenda, the attorney asked that we move F1, which is the oath of office of the mayor and council will be at the end after we read the resolutions and the resolutions are adopted. We are moving F1 to new business. As a result of moving F1 to new business, we are also going to move agenda item H1 under new business. New business is now going to be L1, which is the swearing-in or the
oath of office of the mayor and council, and then L2 will be the selection of the vice mayor. Is there any other changes from the council?

**Roman:** None.

**Nickerson:** None, madam mayor.

**Dreher:** None.

**Cubillos:** Okay, hearing none, can I get a motion to approve the agenda with the two additions, the two changes that were made?

**Mathis:** I move approval.

**Cubillos:** A motion has been made by Councilperson Mathis. Is there a second?

**Roman:** I second.

**Cubillos:** Second by Councilperson Roman. All in favor signal by saying aye.

**All:** Aye.

**Cubillos:** Any nays? Hearing none, the agenda with the amendment has passed for November 27th. At this time, is there a motion to approve-- Actually, better said, have you all had the opportunity to review the minutes for September 25th and the minutes to October 23rd?

**Roman:** Yes.

**Cubillos:** Hearing so, is there a motion to adopt the minutes for the September 25th regular council meeting?

**Mathis:** I motion to adopt the minutes with some changes that I’ll give to the clerk as there are some edits that need to be made.

**Cubillos:** Is it edits that need to put on the record or is it more grammatical?

**Mathis:** No. Yes, more grammatical and some of it was, I guess, their recording didn’t hear people properly and we carry on with actually carry on the person’s name.

**Cubillos:** Okay, and you’ll have it to the clerk by?
Mathis: Today at the end of the night.

Cubillos: Okay, so there’s a motion to adopt the minutes for September 25th with some grammatical corrections by Councilperson Mathis. Is there a second?

Dreher: I second.

Cubillos: Second by Councilperson Dreher. All in favor signal by saying aye.

All: Aye.

Cubillos: Any nays? All right, hearing none, the minutes for September 25th with the amendments that Councilperson Mathis is going to the clerk passes. E2, the approval of the minutes for the October 23rd regular council meeting, is there a motion to adopt the minutes for the October 23rd council meeting?

Nickerson: Motion to adopt.

Cubillos: There’s a motion made by Vice Mayor Nickerson, is there a second?

Mathis: I’ll second.

Cubillos: There is a motion and a second, the second by Councilperson Mathis, any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor signal by saying aye.

All: Aye.

Cubillos: Any nays? Hearing none, the minutes for the October 23rd have been adopted. We’re going to go right into F1, which is the introduction of Interim Chief Jose Perez.

Madam manager, you want to go ahead.

Christia: Welcome. I say that especially to the ladies and gentlemen standing in the back. I appreciate you coming out to support our introduction and selection of Interim Chief Jose Perez. He’s been on the job for one week, and so far, so many changes have happened and we are really happy to have him. Interim Chief Jose Perez comes to us from retirement. He retired just a couple of months ago as a City of Miami Police major. He’s held various positions over the last 27 years in law enforcement as a law enforcement executive. In terms of his major position, he was a commander and training of personnel development commander.
He was lieutenant in charge of shifts and shift commander. Sergeant, field operations in internal affairs and a myriad of other responsibilities that can all bring good things to the village of El Portal as he do a restructuring, and reorganization, and address some of our deficiencies, and really focus on improvement to provide the best public safety we can to our community. Interim Chief Perez is a father of three young ladies. He fits in well here with the staff and we got nothing but good comments about his work thus far. We are very confident that he can lead us, as I said, reorganize, restructure, and address some of the deficiencies that have been recognized by our assessment team.

I want to welcome Interim Chief Jose Perez and I ask that you all support him with a round of applause and we can welcome him.

[applause]

Cubillos: If you can join us Interim Chief Perez to the podium? We also have Judge Peralta who’s going to be doing the swearing in this evening for you and for us. If you want to go ahead and say a few words to our residents in the audience?

Jose Perez: First of all, I’m honored. It’s a privilege, I'm humbled to be here standing in front of you. It’s a great opportunity and the 27 years in the city, I worked in almost every position at the police department like the madam manager said. I was in charge of the South District, in charge of Central District, the director of training. I have a lot of experience and hope to apply it here to make it a better, safer community. That’s my ultimate goal. I also like to thank my chiefs from the City of Miami. They're here and all the bosses when I was in briefing at WC are here too and everybody else. All my friends and all my coworkers for almost 30 years, so thank you for being here always.

[applause]

Judge Peralta: Raise that right hand and say after me. I solemnly swear.

Perez: I do solemnly swear.

Peralta: That I will support and defend and protect.

Perez: That I will support and defend and protect.

Peralta: The constitution of the government of the United States.
Perez: The constitution of the government of the United States.

Peralta: And the state of Florida.

Perez: And the state of Florida.

Peralta: That I’m fully qualified to hold office under the constitution of the state.

Perez: That I’m fully qualified to hold office under the constitution of the state.

Peralta: I will well and faithfully perform the duties of the chief of police.

Perez: I will well and faithfully perform the duties of the chief of police.

Peralta: Which I’m now about to enter.

Perez: Which I’m now about to enter.

Peralta: So help me, God.

Perez: So help me, God.

[applause]

Cubillos: One thing I wanted to point out in the event for those that are going to be here as the meeting goes on in the public safety report, you all will be receiving an email tomorrow from the clerk. There will be a public safety town hall on December 5th, which is a Wednesday at seven o’clock. It’s going to be the opportunity to hear some of the recommendations and implementations that the interim chief is going to recommend in terms of more visibility and efficiency throughout patrolling, and then it’s an opportunity for as well as Q&A.

Tonight probably won’t be the opportunity, but I think he’ll be here for the rest of the meeting, but that is Wednesday, December 5th at seven o’clock here at the village hall. Okay, thank you.

Peralta: Can we sit down?

Cubillos: Sure.

Peralta: Thank you, Perez. Enter.
Cubillos: Next on the agenda is a proclamation. It's a little long, I apologize. For the last couple of years in the village of El Portal, we've done a proclamation every November. Then in the last couple of years, there has been, unfortunately, more neighbors and residents that I've met that have passed away through pancreatic cancer. One of the residents, you all may have seen her because she used to walk everywhere, was Linda. Linda used to walk up and down North East 87th Street and she lived right before you get to Northwest 2nd Avenue. The house that's now having a pool built in there.

She passed away, I don't have her last name on me, but she passed away with pancreatic cancer, and the El Portal women's club, one of the members mum also passed away with pancreatic cancer. I was at an event and some saw my shirt and said El Portal, they were like, "Oh my God, my friend lives on 90th Street and she currently has pancreatic cancer." She's the one who I was hoping would be here this evening to receive the proclamation, but she's unable to be here because she's not doing really well.

In honor and in memory of so many, whether it's members of our family, members of our community, members of our own community in the village of El Portal, I want to read this proclamation, and I'm sorry it's just a little long so I'll try to be as quick as possible. The proclamation declaring the month of November pancreatic cancer awareness month in the village of El Portal. Whereas in 2018, an estimated 53,000 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and 43,000 will die from the disease. Whereas pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest disease, it is currently the third leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States, and it's projected to become the second in 2020.

Pancreatic cancer is the only major cancer with a five-year relative survival rate in the single digits just by 9%, and whereas when the symptoms of pancreatic cancer present themselves, it is generally late stage and 71% of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis while 91% of pancreatic patients die within five years of the diagnosis.

Whereas pancreatic cancer is a leading cause of cancer deaths largely because there are no detection tools to diagnose the disease in its early stages, and whereas the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is the national organization serving the pancreatic cancer community and nationwide through a comprehensive approach that includes public policy, research funding, patient services, and public awareness and education related to developing effective treatments and hopefully a cure for this cancer. Whereas Pancreatic Cancer Action Network support those
patients currently battling pancreatic cancer as well as to those who have lost their lives to the disease, and are committed to nothing less than a cure.

Whereas the good health and well being of the residents of the village of El Portal are enhanced as a direct result of increased awareness about pancreatic cancer and research into early detection causes effective end treatments. Therefore, as mayor of the village of El Portal, I do hereby designate the month of November 2018 as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month proclaimed this 27th day November 2018, and it’s a honor of Linda, and Citrus mom, and all the other residents in our community who have lost a member of the family to pancreatic cancer, so thank you.

All righty, first on the agenda, we have a resolution. It's the resolution 2018/29. It's the fiscal year '17/'18 final operation budget adoption. If I could please have the attorney read it into the record.

Norman: A resolution of the village council of the village of El Portal, Florida adopting a final year budget amendment for fiscal year 2017/2018, and approving the transfers from budget relying items, providing for an incorporation of recitals to take effect immediately.

Cubillos: Thank you. We do have Irwin here, so if you want to come up and give us a little synopsis. This is an annual amendment. We generally have to do an annual amendment to the operation budget and it must always be done before the November of 30th that month.

Irwin: The final budget amendment has to be approved by the council before November 30th. The purpose of this final budget amendment is to make sure that at the end of the year when we go for our fiscal audit that each of our departments are not over budget because that would be finding on the audits. These were the adjustments that had to be made in order to make sure that we did not go over for the audit purposes.

Cubillos: Does the council have had the opportunity to ask Irwin any questions and do we have any questions with the amendments to the budget? This is for last fiscal year, this is not for this fiscal year, it's for last fiscal year.

Irwin: Correct and behind it while I hand it out was what the budget actual is after we approve these amendments, so you can see if you go through department by department that we are not overdrawn on each one of the specific department folders.

Dreher: Do you mind walking us through?
Irwin: Do you want to go through the whole document?

Dreher: No, just a quick summary.

Irwin: The quick summary here is that we have to transfer $872,000 out of our general fund reserves in order to cover the budget. We mainly did two items. One, of course, was the FEMA reimbursements which was 2.3 million offset by the line of credit revenue.

Cubillos: Maybe talk a little away from the microphone because I think the audio is new, so they're pretty sharp.

Irwin: How about now? Better now?

Cubillos: Yes, so talk close to the-- To get static even.

Irwin: That was the major difference, Councilperson Dreher, was the FEMA reimbursement offset by the revenue we received from the line of credit. If you could look at those net, they were 900,000. Our total budget administered were 872. The others are just minor adjustments for each one to the departments. For specific line items that we have to adjust that we did not go over the budget for this department.

Dreher: The biggest item here, the 873, do you mind just to walk through the actual document here?

Irwin: Actually, there's an easier way. If you look behind there, there's a spreadsheet that was handed out and the spreadsheet will be able to show you what the adjustments were for each one of the departments.

Dreher: All right, so we have four worksheets, do you mind just specifying which worksheet shall we be looking at?

Irwin: The first one is the general fund, the very first page is the general fund. As I indicated two minutes ago, if you look at the second line, proceeds from the LOC from that Citibank, you'll see there's an adjustment from one million to 50 and that is so that we record the proceeds from the line of credit. If you go to the second page and look at the first item on the last section, you'll see it's this contractual services of 2,187,000 that is for the expenditures that we had from the Hurricane Irma. All the other items are going to be ins and outs, but those two items alone, this 937 and the total transfer is 872, the other is just miscellaneous in and out.
This is an amendment that we have to pass in order to be in compliance and to make sure that we don't have any findings at the end of the year. We can go into detail, but I don't think it's necessary to go line by line on each one.

Dreher: No. That's a no, I understand.

Irwin: Yes, the critical was to look at the bottom line which departments receive the final budget of what the amount is, and what the actual is, and that we're not over at any one of the departments.

Cubillos: I just think for point of clarity for the audience and for the council is this is not money we're taking out right now, this is the money that had been taken out throughout the year and we're doing the amendments for it to be able to balance the budget correct.

Irwin: Right, it's not a cash transfer, it's a transfer that we call fund balance. We have to take care of our fund balance in order to balance the budget.

Cubillos: No one single department is over at all, it was just the fatality based on Irma for the most part.

Irwin: Public works is the worst department because that's where all the Irma expenditures came out of and that's when we had to make the major adjustment.

Cubillos: Then if we look at each department, each department was actually, I think, under in terms of expenses. None of them were over.

Irwin: Yes, most of them were under. It was mainly public works and a few of the others that we have to adjust because of the expenditures that just were not budgeted for at the beginning of the budget year.

Cubillos: Since the village is audited every year, we self-audit. This is part of what's necessary for the audit to go through as you all are in the process of doing it for the next mayor, correct?

Irwin: Right, when the auditors come in if we didn't do this, for every department that's over budget, there would be a finding on the audit report.

Cubillos: Any questions for Irwin? Any question? No? Is there a motion to adopt resolution 2018/29?
Roman: I motion.

Mathis: I second.

Cubillos: The move by Councilperson Roman and second by Councilperson Matthis. I'm going to go ahead and close the accounts meeting open up for public comment. If anybody wants to come up and ask a question with regards to resolution 2018/29, which is our annual final operation budget adoption. If you have a question, you can come up. About this item.

Audience Member: [inaudible 00:21:29] We don't have that to go through it and we're really ignorant of what you're talking about. It wasn't given to everybody there.

?Roman: [inaudible 00:21:41]

Audience Member: You're asking us now to give a comment and unfortunately, we can't.

Cubillos: Okay, would you like a copy?

Audience Member: Yes, we would. Anybody else wants one?

Audience: Yes.

[inaudible conversation]

Audience Member: Thank you very much.

?Roman: No problem.

Cubillos: I apologize you all don't have it. You take a moment to take a look at it, and while you're doing that, I will just go ahead and just reiterate. This is the budget for the last fiscal year that we discuss at every single council meeting for the most part. There's one right here. Do you have another one?

Roman: Have this one. Have a look at it. You can tell them so they know what they're looking at.

Cubillos: If you want to maybe walk them through a little bit since they have it in front of them.

Roman: Like what they're seeing in the first item. You don't have to go page by page.
Cubillos: I'm going to close the public comments and refer back to the council and ask Irwin to please walk them through briefly. Irwin, do you want to just go through just the top portion at a glance?

Irwin: You're talking sections one, two, three, four, five, each one of the sections?

Cubillos: I'm sorry?

Irwin: You're talking about all the sections?

Cubillos: No, there's a point that just go through the departments but at a glance. Keep in mind if this is the first time you're looking at the document, it's difficult to understand, but this is a document that we've discussed at every single council meeting the last fiscal year because we discussed the budget at every meeting admin and finance committee as well as the council meeting. It's also posted on the website, so it'll be a little probably hard to understand it this evening if it's the first time you're looking at it.

Irwin: Okay, so we're going to look at this spreadsheet then and I'm going to go to the second section, this finance and administration first. Looking at the major items there, one was the legal retainer because we went from an actual to a fixed retainer midway through the year which required us to do to a budget amendment for that line. We spent extra money for the lobbyist in the last fiscal years, they had to adjust that by $80,000.

The grant creditor was over by $12,000, but a lot of that money was used for the stormwater project, so it's a little misleading to see here that a lot of it was for the southern work that was done on the stormwater submission on the projects that we're working on. Going down to the master client consultant, we had budgeted 60, we only spent 46, so we took $10,000 off. We reduced the budget by $10,000 because we had over budgeted on that line there. Village clerk is very, very small. There's really not much to say about the village clerk budget. There were just two small items. One was the Egnar budget for video recording and transcripts, so that required under a $300 adjustment.

We had to do extra advertising which resulted in spending $1,500 more on that specific line. Turning the page, we're looking at the police department. The reason we buy new cars and the reason we bought new cars last year is that these police cars, the older cars keep breaking down. We had budgeted $10,000 in repairs for the year and we came in at $17,000, so we had to adjust our line item on this budget for repairs by $7,000. Bullets and vests, they made a determination that all officers needed new vests, so we had a $1,500 budget, they came in at
$6,300, so that require a $4,900 adjustment. It was not the bullets, it was all for vests that we had to make that adjustment.

Looking further down at building permits. You'll see a $20,000 negative. As you recall, we collect half the fees that are collected to revenues, whatever the revenues are we keep 20%, well, our revenue budget we collected $40,000 less than we anticipated, so we had to pay out $20,000 less to the consultant. That's why you see the $20,000 adjustments. The biggest department that had all the candy that I talked earlier was the public works department. The 2.18 million was the payments we had to make for the FEMA reimbursement for the Irma cleanup. That was 2,187,000. Obviously, we didn't budget anything for that at the beginning of the year, no one knew the hurricane was going to hit.

Repairs that the village probably had to make was a $17,000 adjustment and the transfers you see here, which was to the stormwater firm that is because that on the monies we got for the stormwater projects on the grant, they only cover 80% of the project, so we have to cover the 20% balance. This is money transferred to make sure that the revenues coming in match the outflows of expenditure that are going out, so that's the $327,500. That transfer you see there. Now it's not a transfer, it's a transfer to one of the other funds. It was a transfer to the stormwater fund.

Turning the page, that's just a reallocation, where it says FEMA reimbursement. We had originally budgeted it again in different departments, so we're just removing it, so that's $425,000. The same thing on the cleanup, on the Irma cleanup. This was originally budgeted. When we budgeted at the beginning of the year, we put it into that department, but when actually did the expenditure and revenue, it was budgeted through the public works, which is a different department, so we just took it out. Turning the page, this is the special revenue reserves. Again, the increases we see are all what I talked earlier about.

Here, you can see that 327 that I mentioned here, which is a transfer out from the general fund and the proceeds of the loan, the state grant, and $175,000 loan that we also received from the state. The expenditures down below, the main ones were for three projects. They were for the L Hardeen project for the stormwater facility plant, and for the septic to sewer project. This is what you see all these furniture here for $744,000. Again, we didn't know we're going to get it at the beginning of the year, so during the year as we received the grants and we started to work on the project, we have to budget for those expenditures.

**Dreher:** Quick question, you mentioned something about the stormwater, what was the total cost again?
Irwin: We transferred $327,000.

Dreher: The total cost, how much was it for the stormwater though?

Irwin: Beg your pardon?

Dreher: How much was the total cost for stormwater then? 170?

Irwin: I think it was $435 on one and $175 on the [inaudible 00:29:58].

Cubillos: Yes, but when you're asking stormwater, are you asking septic to sewer or are we asking the L. Hardeen's stormwater project?

Dreher: Septic to sewer.

Cubillos: Septic to sewer, okay.

Irwin: Septic to sewer was 435.

Dreher: No, that's what the signs says, 435.

Irwin: Correct.

Dreher: Stormwater is one. I'm not following on that logic.

Irwin: The 435 and the 175 are both in the stormwater fund. That the fund is called stormwater. I really don't understand what you don't understand.

Dreher: I'm just trying to get what you just stated on the stormwater. Honestly, we just got this, as I understand, from the clerk is this information that we haven't had enough time to actually review this information. I would appreciate it, even one of our council members, we didn't have the copy here, so I would definitely appreciate it if we have more time. That's my thought. My request from everybody.

Irwin: A couple comments. One is that this is not something I prepared yesterday, this has been available. I submitted it about ten days ago, so it's not that it wasn't available and it just hadn't been distributed. Typically, we haven't gone in detail when we have the final budget amendment. Again, this is not budgeting to spend money. What we're doing here is we're just budgeting to make sure that the budget is balanced.
Dreher: Correct, and part of that transfer you just stated an amount regarding the stormwater, which is not clear to me. You're asking us to approve all these transfers when we still have a question. I would appreciate it if we could have some time this minute to go back to you and look over it more in detail.

Irwin: You have no time because it has to be passed by the 30th. Today is the 27th, so if it doesn't pass tonight, we're not going to be in compliance.

Dreher: Okay.

[inaudible conversations]

Cubillos: Please, give me one second. Before I say anything, what was your exact question to Irwin?

Dreher: What was the total cost for the stormwater project? For the septic to sewer project.

Irwin: Which one? 435. In this fiscal year, it was 435.

Dreher: I'm going to ask it to perhaps the project manager who knows this information or the engineering firm, the stormwater, what was the total cost?

Irwin: For the sewer to septic reports, the total cost.

Cubillos: The total cost spent in the fiscal year that we're addressing.

Audience Member: Septic to sewer, 435.

Dreher: That's for the design phase.

Audience Member: Correct.

Dreher: You were talking about the stormwater, which the stormwater is 130.

Audience Member: 175.

Dreher: 175, but you just stated it was 435.

Audience Member: Apparently, he has both projects in the stormwater funds.
Irwin: Right.

Audience Member: They're both on the same fund, but one is septic to sewer and one is stormwater.

Irwin: That the planning, the facility planning is the 175. The 435 is the septic to sewer. The L Hardeen is the allocation that we spent from the L Hardeen project, but they're all sitting in the stormwater fund.

Dreher: All right.

Cubillos: It's earmarked because the bills get paid when we get the money from the state.

Nickerson: We approve.

Cubillos: When the bill comes in, it goes to the state, and then we get the bill, and then that's how we pay it because the state has put the money in the account.

Dreher: Correct and we approve. That's what's based on our individual one on one we have from the council. That's why it wasn't planned by Christia. Is that correct Krista?

Christia: What is the question? What was the claim on the individual? I don't understand the question.

Cubillos: Can you clarify your question, please? What's the question?

Dreher: The question is based on the comment that was just made that we approve the money from the state once we get that grant money.

Cubillos: There's two projects that was monies allocated by the state. We have a half a million and that's the L Hardeen that was done through the lobbying efforts, and that is L Hardeen also stormwater project. Then we have the septic to sewer and this is all monies that was spent in the last fiscal year, but these projects when we paid the vendor, it was after monies was received. The vendor sends the invoice to the state, and the invoice can say 100,000, 110,000, and then the monies come into the bank, and that's what we are paid. If we've paid anymore, maybe it's this fiscal year, but based on ’17, ’18 fiscal year, that's the amendment to the budget we're looking at.
Irwin: Yes, we pay the vendor once we know the state has paid us and we've drawn down the funds, and then we pay the vendor. This money is not coming out of the general fund. It's coming out of the earmarked fund from the state.

Cubillos: That's why they're in a special revenue fund.

Irwin: Right. Any other questions? I also want to just clear up one thing. Everyone here sees the large expenditure for the Irma cleanup, but the reason we don't show the revenue now is because, under the rules, we are not allowed to accrue the revenue we're going to get until FEMA obligates the funds. What's going to happen next year? If FEMA obligates it at our next fiscal year, we'll have another budget amendment mid-year again because we're going to get 2.3 million dollars back if we replenish our reserves.

Cubillos: To wrap up, I think what the accounts had raised concern was the design cost is 435, correct?

Dreher: For the design phase.

Cubillos: For the design phase.

Dreher: The stormwater is something separate.

Cubillos: Then the stormwater was about 135?

Irwin: 175.

Dreher: That's what I'm trying to get out of here.

Cubillos: 175, and then with the stormwater design also include the planning phase for the facility master plan?

Irwin: Yes.

Cubillos: It's fair to say that 132 plus 55 is, is that 177? No it's 187.

Irwin: No, they're different things. The facility master plan was 55 plus the-- Hold on one second now.

Cubillos: Could it not be if the stormwater facility design was 175, correct?
Irwin: Yes.

Cubillos: Could it not be that in the last fiscal year, because I think I see what you're looking at, because it says here facility design.

Irwin: It's not design, it's plan.

Cubillos: Sorry, a plan, so the stormwater facility design, what was paid out last fiscal year was 132. Maybe in this fiscal year, the balance to 175 has been paid?

Irwin: No, the whole 175 was paid.

Cubillos: Was paid last fiscal year?

Irwin: Yes, the last fiscal year, yes.

Cubillos: Okay because if it was paid the entire last fiscal year, it's saying here that the expenditures for the design was 132. If it's not, that's why I was looking at, is the 55 thousand included in the 132? That would be 187 though. I'm looking at the last, this page. The last page with the expenditures. What's broken down.

Irwin: It means that we spent slightly more than the proceeds we got from the loan from the state. That's what it means.

Cubillos: That's why I was asking, so the facility master plan planning and the stormwater facility design would be encompassing the 175 that Councilperson Dreher was asking.

Irwin: That is correct.

Cubillos: It's obviously a little over.

Irwin: It was 187 versus 175 because some miscellaneous charges that we had to absorb.

Cubillos: Then the design L Hardeen is completely different. That comes from the half a million.

Irwin: That's a straight allocation.

Cubillos: Last fiscal year, we paid out 115.
Irwin: Right.

Cubillos: We still have a positive balance left for the L Hardeen project.

Irwin: That is correct for the second phase.

Cubillos: Does that answer your question? Any other questions for Irwin Williams? Okay, hearing none, there is a motion to adopt resolution 2018/29, which is the '17/18 budget operation budget. Is there any discussion from the council? Hearing none, madam clerk, can I get roll call, please?

Yenise: Role call. Councilperson Dreher.

Dreher: No.

Yenise: Councilperson Roman.

Roman: Yes.

Yenise: Councilperson Mathis.

Mathis: Yes.

Yenise: Vice Mayor Nickerson.

Nickerson: Yes.

Yenise: Mayor Cubillos.

Cubillos: I'm yes.

Yenise: Motion passes four to one.

Cubillos: Next we have this I2, which is resolution 2018/30, which is the general election results. I'm sorry, attorney, can you commit this to the record.

Norman: A resolution of the village council of El Portal, Florida authorizing the Miami Dade Canvassing Board to serve as canvassing board for the general election of El Portal held on November 6th, 2018 setting an effective date.
Cubillos: Madam clerk, I know those two resolutions aren't here with regards to the elections, anything you want to elaborate on with this resolution?

Yenise: No.

Cubillos: The standard operating procedure that after every election we must pass a resolution adopting that we accept the election from the state results and from the county.

Norman: That's correct.

Cubillos: Is there a motion to a job resolution 2018/30?

Mathis: A motion to approve.

Cubillos: A motion has been made by Councilperson Mathis, is there a second?

Roman: I'll second.

Cubillos: Second by Councilperson Roman, any discussion? Madam clerk, can I get roll call, please?

Yenise: Roll call. Councilperson Dreher.

Dreher: Yes.

Yenise: Councilperson Roman.

Roman: Yes.

Yenise: Councilperson Mathis.

Mathis: Yes.

Yenise: Vice Mayor Nickerson.

Nickerson: Yes.

Yenise: Mayor Cubillos.

Cubillos: Yes.
Yenise: Motion passes five to zero.

Cubillos: Resolution 2018/31, candidates elected to office.

Norman: A resolution of the village of El Portal, Florida concerning the village general election of November 6th, 2018, declaring qualified candidate elected to office, accepting and adopting the results for the offices of mayor and councilpersons, and certified by Miami Dade Canvassing Board and providing an effective date.

Cubillos: Thank you. Yenise, this is also introduced by you, anything you want to add to the resolution 2018/31?

Yenise: No.

Cubillos: Okay, hearing none, is there a motion to approve 2018/31?

Mathis: Motion approval.

Cubillos: A motion has been made by Councilperson Mathis, is there a second?

Dreher: I second.

Cubillos: Second by Councilperson Dreher, any discussion? Hearing none, madam clerk, may I have roll call?

Yenise: Roll call. Councilperson Dreher.

Dreher: Yes.

Yenise: Councilperson Roman.

Roman: Yes.

Yenise: Councilperson Mathis.

Mathis: Yes.

Yenise: Vice Mayor Nickerson.
Nickerson: Yes.

Yenise: Mayor Cubillos.

Cubillos: I'm yes.

Yenise: Motion passes five to none.

Cubillos: Thank you. Is Mike here? Is Michael Posovia here?

Roman: He's outside.

Cubillos: Okay. [crosstalk] the ordinance for that. Next, we have a second reading, it's ordinance 2018/06, it's the medical marijuana dispensaries. If I could please have the attorney read it into the record.

Norman: Yes, madam. An ordinance of the village of El Portal, Florida. Amending the code of ordinances chapter 24, appendix B, form-based code, article 3 uses. Table 1, specific function and use. Section 24B.8., definitions of building functions uses and article 6 specific to zones. Section 24-B.17, zone 5Z5 urban center and article 10 definition of terms. In order to provide the conditions, the requirements for the use of medical marijuana dispensaries and medical marijuana treatment centers provided for incorporation of recitals, providing for conflict repealer, severability, codification, and effective date.

Cubillos: Thank you. Welcome, Juan. For those of you who do know Juan Mabar is our urban planner and he works through with the code. Medical marijuana dispensary is an ordinance that has been in discussion for us for about a year now, so if you can just give the clip no version to the audience and to us for this is the second reading, and it did pass the ordinance of the last council.

Juan: Sure. Quite briefly, we're using the same formula that is used in many municipalities for alcohol, so we're requiring a certain distance from a place of worship or a park or a civic place. It's only allowed on Z5, which is the highest intent of use, which would be to the east of the tracks. That's where our Z5 lies and it would be precluded by a thousand feet from, for instance, this location with the park, the right side of us, and a couple of churches that are in the city of Miami.

Cubillos: Any questions from the council to Juan before opening up to the public? Hearing none, I'm going to close the council and open up for public comment so that it can be addressed
to Juan or to any of us. What are these? Do you all have the ordinance in front of you? Does anybody need it?

**Yenise:** It's on the site.

**Cubillos:** It's on the site.

**Joan Hennessy:** I'm just curious--

**Cubillos:** Just state your name and address for the record, please.

**Joan:** Joan Hennessy, 269 NW 86th Street. Anyway, I'm curious just the way it seems like there's nowhere that's not a thousand feet from here east of the track, is there anywhere that still lies a thousand [inaudible 00:45:00]?

**Cubillos:** It's in the whole document.

**Joan:** It's in the what?

**Cubillos:** It's in the document, but it's not in that one, it's in the whole that we send you, the package.

**Joan:** No, I understand, but according to the urban planner, I've forgot your name, he said that the only locations that were allowed to be an expansion are east of the track, but yes, not within a thousand feet of here.

**Juan:** Not within a thousand feet of [inaudible 00:45:28].

**Joan:** Or somewhere like this.

**Juan:** [inaudible 00:45:29]

**Joan:** Or a civic building.

**Juan:** [inaudible 00:45:34]

**Joan:** Is this is a civic building?

**Juan:** [inaudible 00:45:36]
Joan: What's left for El Portal a thousand feet east of here?

Juan: [inaudible 00:45:43]

Joan: Thank you.

Cubillos: Any other questions from the public? Okay, hearing none, I'm going to close public comments. Does the council or manager have any questions for Juan?

Roman: No.

Cubillos: Okay, hearing none, is there a motion to adopt-- Did I ask for that? No, I didn't ask for that. Is there a motion to adopt for the second reading of ordinance 2018/06.

Roman: Motion.

Cubillos: A motion has been made by Councilperson Roman, is there a second?

Nickerson: I second.


Yenise: Roll call. Councilperson Dreher.

Dreher: Yes.

Yenise: Councilperson Roman.

Roman: Yes.

Yenise: Councilperson Mathis.

Mathis: Yes.

Yenise: Vice Mayor Nickerson.

Nickerson: The last time I voted no.

Cubillos: What?
Nickerson: Yes, I voted no.

Cubillos: You did?

Nickerson: I stick with my no. No.

Yenise: Mayor Cubillos.

[inaudible conversations]

Cubillos: No.

Yenise: Mayor Cubillos.

Cubillos: No.

Yenise: Motion passes two to three.

Cubillos: What do we have left here?

[inaudible conversations]

Cubillos: I am going to go ahead and start off with our manager's support. If you can please walk us through your report and include the audience as well.

Christia: I'm going to just touch on some of the major items because really that has been the focus for this month. Then the El Portal police department and followed with the--

Audience Member: Can you speak to the mic?

Christia: I am speaking in the best I can. It's not in front of me but I will try harder. Okay, thank you. [laughs] Yes, we did a myriad of meetings with community, with the police officers, with the council members, and there has been such a, I guess, a decline with our public safety over the past many months, and we want to address that. We thought that perhaps shift changes and personnel changes would help, but we have not been able to address the need for more officers on the street, more visibility.

That said, the community has felt unsafe and expressed that to me and the other members of the council, so I did research and found a company that can do an internal assessment of our department and incorporation to see what we could do better. Where our strength were and
how we could level it so that we are more accessible to the community and have that visibility that we need, especially during the critical shifts, which would be the night times and weekends. That said, I did call in an independent consulting company. I know a lot of you all probably received my letter when I expressed this need and the need for the new interim chief to actually start the process of change and improvement.

That is what has been huge for me this entire month. We will continue. McGrath Consulting company is or the firm that did the assessment, and they had not made any final recommendations of it yet, but they just gave us some preliminary recommendations and discussions. In fact, we’re meeting again with them next with the interim chief so that we can finalize some things. We have a long way to go to get on the right place in terms of our standard operating procedures. Just the way we conduct business, the way we operate, the way we schedule, the way we promote, and we didn’t have any of that in place, so now we have to do that.

We want this to be an open and transparent department as all of the other departments are. That is my goal since I came on as a village manager is to get our reporting the right way. Get the documentation in place that we need to operate, and that’s what we have to do properly in this department. We’re addressing that and we are, again, welcoming our new interim police chief with that, who has a lot of experience in assisting with those things that we so desperately need. We’re having the public safety town hall meeting next week, which will give you just direct access to that.

I think that would give you an opportunity to ask questions and just hear what our 90-day plan is, and maybe we can have a little bit more in terms of where we are in the assessment from the independent firm. That said, we also have to conduct our other businesses and that is, for example, code enforcement. We are trying to close out two troubled properties, working with those owners and we are in a place now where we’re working on the lien settlements, and they are refinancing those properties, so that is a positive. Hopefully, those properties will make a tremendous turnaround and will not blight the community as they have.

Our code enforcement officer, Carlos Garcia, who's been out on jury duty for the past two and a half weeks, he’s not due back till Monday, so I hope his case will end. He’s been extended a couple of times, but our police officers have back build were appropriate in their ability to help us identify some areas that will be getting citations, anything like that.

For our planning and zoning, we are working with Conserbia and Solar Smart. We are trying to bring our permitting and code up to 2018/2019 standards with Solar Smart.
addressing the need for solar and efficient energy permitting and giving opportunities for people who want to do renovations or build in a way that it's energy smart and Solar Smart.

That is something that we'll be working on. We have a new building permit clerk coming on board on Monday. Her name is Blair Bubble. She will be taking Ms. Daisy Heister's place as a permanent employee of the village, which will help us tremendously because Ms. Heister was contracted through our engineering firm, Kep government. We’ll be welcoming her on Monday and instituting some of the Solar Smart recommendations and allowing us to be energy smart as we do our permitting and reward those who want to do that kind of renovation or building to their home. Public works, we are holding our septic to sewer project just temporarily.

We had to work out some administrative matters, but we’re moving forward on that. Hopefully, we will be in a place where we can move that project forward once we get some land issues settled, and so we’re looking forward to that. Our consultant, Robert Ruano, I believe he's already left. He just applied for CBGB grant funds so that we can hopefully get some money from the county to help us with the growth restoration once we do the construction for the septic to sewer project or any other road work that comes along that could fit under that umbrella.

Outside of that, I, again, continue to work on our police department. We have completed the general administration's employee handbook as well as the emergency preparedness at a glance guide. We continue to try to make improvements in terms of the administration and just getting things where they should be. We’re a small village. This is not hard work, but it is difficult when we have not done this work before. We’re starting from scratch and I just appreciate that I'd gotten the support of the council and a lot of the community members here, and who aren't here tonight in that effort because we’re wanting to do things the right way. That’s the only way we can progress. That is it, thank you.

Cubillos: Pleasure. Any questions for the manager?

Nickerson: [inaudible 00:55:35]

Cubillos: I’ll do it in Good and Welfare right now. I’m going to go into the committee chair reports. The first one we have is Councilperson Mathis for Public Affairs.

Mathis: We had Halloween. We didn’t do the block party this year, rather the residents called for a traditional type Halloween door to door, so we did that. I did give out candy at the village hall. We had some people come visit and the majority of the people were coming for the block
party, but while inquiring, most of them didn’t even live in the village. A lot of the people that didn’t live in the village was benefiting from it. We will take that into consideration again for next year to see how we go about doing that. We did have our turkey giveaway. A lot of the council members were out doing their own things.

We had to scramble to get it done because actually, they gave us a turkey, then they actually gave us some sides, they gave out a lot of mangoes, squash, bananas. There was a lot to give out. The residents who were chosen or contacted the council, they got their turkeys and I hope they had a great Thanksgiving, and I hope everybody else did have a great Thanksgiving. With Christmas around the way, we’ve been working with the women’s club. We’re going to do our tree lighting ceremony, a movie night. It’s going to be encompassed with the East Coast Railway Standard train, so that's going to be on December 8th, starting at 6:15.

The train is actually running later now because of a big increase in the West Palm areas. The train will arrive here at 8:15, so the tree lighting ceremony will be at 6:15, the movie will start at 6:30, and then the train. That concludes my report.

Cubillos: Thank you. Next, we have Councilperson Dreher, who’s the chair of Public works.

Dreher: Thanks, madam mayor. I’m going to make my report a little bit more interactive here with the rest of the village management as well with the council members now that I have the opportunity to have you all here. First, let’s talk about the septic to sewer project. Basically, I had an opportunity to get a chance to meet for the second time with our Principal Lawrence. I met with him yesterday. There was a big uncertainty coming from the village management that the principal had some concerns on the easement for the septic to sewer project. As a result of the conversation with the principal, he has no issues with the septic to sewer pumping station.

The concern was that how the project was brought in was that they were lumping two projects that was the expansion of the nature trail and as well of the septic to sewer that was being treated as one package. This concern is being driven by the expansion of nature trail, which actually, I got a sense, a feel for actually walking on the field and what it means to what that expansion trail consist of. Basically, it turns out based on it, soccer fields is going to represent about 30% of that area, which makes no sense to take away that entire piece, but he has no concerns.

I did request for him to please document the information about no concerns of the septic to sewer easement on the pumping station location on the Southwest corner of the school. He has no concerns. That should not be- and he’s documented that. I also received some information
that has been there and I have some copies here, which is a second important point that this project is at risk. The project is at risk. One of the reasons is because the way it works is we as a village are getting qualified an 80% loan-- 80% grant money, 20% loan. Based on this email from the Tim Banks, the DEP State of Florida, its stating that- let me share it here with the rest of the council members. I made several copies for them where he's actually stating that funds are not being guaranteed after the next fiscal year, and for the next public hearing.

This is where I'm going to make the motion because I know we have been lingering or postponing this public meeting since April. I'm sorry. Since- when was it, Christia, from August, then we postponed to June. Based here on this notice here, there's, coming from him from Timothy Banks, that there is especially the likelihood to exhaust the available funds for the upcoming fiscal year.

I do understand that the actual funding gets replenished each year, but there's no guarantee that the upcoming year we're going to get the same amount of money to replenish for us to compete for that grant money. There's where I'm going to make the motion for the actual manager to have everything that is needed to apply for- make ourselves available for this grant money for the February hearing. I do not want to jeopardize us from losing this opportunity [unintelligible 01:01:34] in this 30% grant money. This is where I'm asking the council to have this motion in here for approval.

**Norman:** There's a motion on the floor. Do the second.

**Mathis:** Second for discussion.

**Cubillos:** There's a motion made by Councilperson Greher, second by Councilperson Mathis up for discussion. I would like to ask the attorney, I don't know what are you going to say at the moment, but we've all been in meeting the last couple of weeks on this subject. There is a lot involved and entailed at the moment. There was the last meeting that I believe the attorney and the manager had last maybe, not Thursday Thanksgiving, but the week before.

**Norman:** On the 15th.

**Cubillos:** On the 15th. We have not, or I have not, received an update from that meeting. There are too many variables from what I understood at the meeting that I'm not comfortable with adopting any motion to moving forward until I have been fully versed on what they have said, and then we all can discuss collectively.
Also, if he's really comfortable about the easement, then it must be in writing because I met with him. We went there; we donated 25 turkeys and the women's club donated- they did the distribution. Never once in my conversation, and I tried to recap an email to the principal, did I mention the [unintelligible 01:03:24]. That conversation I've had more with the school board member. I've tried to keep them as separate as possible because it's two separate items, even though at the end of the day, at some point, they're going to be combined if one affects the other in terms of probably a construction or what have you, you’ve got to work smart that way.

If he does approve even in the location that you all initially selected, that's fantastic. You've got to put that in writing and as soon as you get that. I'm giving the attorney but putting us in a predicament right now, I really would like to hear from the attorney as much as you can divulge from the meeting that you had with him. I don't know everything, but from what I gathered at that meeting, there's some serious things going on that we need to be concerned as a council.

**Norman:** Mine is I'm going to give the highlights in my report, but I can do that now. Before I do that, I'm trying to make sure I understand the motion that Councilman Dreher made. Is your motion intended to direct the manager to take all necessary steps possibly to be prepared to apply for the grant funds for this fiscal year by February?

**Dreher:** For the February hearing. This is based right on this email that let me read into me into the record which I have provided you with a copy. It's coming from Timothy Banks. This is being stated to the engineering firm.

“Roger, the limited size for the petition can be accepted for the purpose of placing the project on the fundable list. A construction agreement will still be contingent on receiving a clear site certification on a timely manner. We will need a written statement on what the issue is, why the agreement with the school board is still pending, and how to impasse the result.

The site certification is part of the readiness to proceed process, and it's intended to assure that we will be no project delays caused by the land issues such as easement and acquisition. Readiness to pursue this is especially important this year since we'll be likely to exhaust the available funds for this fiscal year during the next meeting, public meeting which is scheduled February.”

This is where my concern is. We have this risk of losing this opportunity to qualify for that 80% money of a $4-million project. That's why I'm making this motion. Based on this email as well, this Timothy Banks, Department State of Florida is requesting that a written statement
of what the issue is regarding the easement be provided to him where we qualify for the February meeting. That, to my interpretation, is a written statement from the applicant who is the village, not the school. That is the reason why I'm making this motion to move forward. I see Christia and Madam Mayor looking at each other. Is there a comment?

Cubillos: No. I'm actually looking over to the attorney because the question I had to the attorney was this $435,000 for the design, is the design done?

Norman: Not yet.

Cubillos: There's concerns here. There's valid concerns here. I think that before we jump to spending any more money because we capped that as a money as far as the state is going to give the village. Everything else is going to be on us now. I think it's important that we have these questions answered.

Norman: Let me answer the questions in reverse. We met with Pennoni to work out what's ultimately going to be an addendum to the existing septic to sewer agreement. That's necessitated because the allocation of the [unintelligible 01:06:49] contract has been exhausted.

You may recall at one of the public works meetings within the last month or so, Pennoni came before the council requested an [unintelligible 01:07:00] to the agreement with the State which we'll require us to borrow additional funds to complete the design plans for the septic to sewer project. The instructions from the council to Pennoni and our consultant was to evaluate the goals concerning what was actually paid for under the agreement, and why were we in excess of the [unintelligible 01:07:26] contract.

In the last several weeks, we've had I'd say at least 10 meetings on the subject. The leave off with the contract was that they're going to send us a proposed resolution of the issue. They did that last Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving. It was forwarded to the manager. I requested that day also a copy, Councilman Dreher as the chair of the committee.

That's where we are. The manager still has to evaluate it. I'm certain that within the next couple of days, there will be a response to it, which I don't believe is going to upset the timeline that Councilman Dreher is suggesting. If his meeting is as truthful as you just describe it, we would have a communication coming from the school advising that the location, I think this would be site number six- I'm sorry site number seven, is a vital location of the pump station.
We would certainly be able to at least [unintelligible 01:08:30] that in our transmission to the state. If the leave off after that is only to submit the actual easement, would still be in the pipeline for the February meeting. The proof is in the pudding. We haven't got any communication back from the school which shouldn't take that long because it's just a communication. I think the real leave-off is resolving our issue with Pennoni, which I expect is going to be done in the next couple of days.

Conception, I don't have an issue. I certainly wouldn't have an issue given our posture with the contractor to move forward with the motion that's being made. It's basically saying do everything to save the project. That's basically what his motion is as I understand it.

Christia: If I may? I continue to work on the project. In the same email that you provided, it does say from Thomas Montgomery whose also [unintelligible 01:09:33] State of Florida. He says, firstly, the village cannot be able to compete with construction funding unless a complete set of designs is submitted along with the associated permits and [unintelligible 01:09:44] that right to the property where the construction will take place has been obtained. That goes to once we have the property, once we have the right [unintelligible 01:09:55], then there is no reason why the package can't be fixed.

Dreher: Correct. That's a correct statement you just read, but that's a statement based on how the wording was phrased. If you go back to the email thread, you see here, “Good morning gentlemen.” It's coming from your village manager to Timothy Banks. The request is, “Good morning, gentlemen. To memorize our discussion last Friday, please respond to the following. When any complete phase one design package be considered wherever requesting construction funds for the village to septic to sewer water project.”

By logic, they would say, anybody will respond to you know how the question is being framed. That's why I definitely needed to get more clarity. If you go through the actual email thread, that's where the clarification it's made on the available funding. That is where, like Norman said, I appreciate it. I'm trying to save the project. If we keep postponing to the next meetings of when the hearings are going to be heard about the grant money available that we qualified on a $4-million project for 80%, I do not want to jeopardize this project.

To the whole council, I'm making it aware that we cannot afford to miss any other of this meeting, so that's why I'm making this firm motion. I believe in the project. If everybody else in this podium believes in the project, we need to move forward for this February meeting. That is the motion that I'm requesting based on this email here based on Timothy Banks response with all due respect, village manager.
Christia: With all due respect, I want to see the project move forward too, and I have been working on it too [unintelligible 01:11:35] or some type of certification, a written statement why [unintelligible 01:11:43]. That’s how I read that as well. That's the only thing holding up the project, I assume because we've met with [inaudible 01:11:50]. We're 8% away from being complete. We just need [unintelligible 01:11:53] [crosstalk]--

Dreher: The written--

Cubillos: I know you have a question. I have a question. The question I have, when I walked out of the meeting, the Easement was a clearly a primary concern, but the other primary concern was the analysis that we got with the money that has been spent. All of the money that the state was awarding for the design has been paid to the vendor, Pennoni, but we don't have any designs to show for it.

My question is, which is the question that I ask because I thought that the meeting was going to entail to give us a question is, what is it going to cost to get the complete design because is that cost is going to come from the village of ElPortal, not from state? I thought that was one component.

The other component was, can we move forward as long as we have the easement? The challenge right now is- not challenge, but did we need not pay more, or aren't you not charging us more because we were told that it was not that easement or all of the work has been done for that easement? The design project that is not completed yet, we've completely paid for it already; we've spent the money. It was done for Easement seven?

Norman: That's correct. The contractor has told us that if the current location that Councilman Dreher is referring to that the school is fine with, that if that is ironed out and solidified, they are 8% away from being able to give us completed plans. He's here. He can come up and confirm that.

Cubillos: Well, two things actually because we are already overspent because we haven't billed, we haven't paid.

Norman: That’s the other part of it. That's the other part-- [crosstalk]

Cubillos: There's a bill we haven't paid, so they've spent more money than was allotted for by the State for just the design portion of the project. Now, there's still 8% of the project that's not complete because we haven't seen anything. We have like 140- I don't remember the other that
we owe you- plus 8% of the project. What does that math going to be that we're going to have to pay Pennoni?

**Dreher:** That’s-- [crosstalk]

**Cubillos:** I thought that the meeting on the 15th, those are the answers I was looking for was were we going to get the easement? How much is the 8% going to cost? How are we going to pay the bill that was overspent without telling us that the money was already [unintelligible 01:14:22]?

**Norman:** They're two separate issues, but unfortunately, they're tied together. Councilman Dreher’s told us for the first time is that the school doesn't have any problems with location. That's going to be confirmed. We're only now dealing with getting that confirmation memorialized and solidified. Then, second, working out the issue with Pennoni.

Pennoni, again, has told us that they're 8% of the way. They did send us a proposal as a compromise to the issue that you're referring to having exhausted before 35, which was sent to the manager. I don't believe she's in a position right now to recommend one way or another whether it's something she's willing to recommend to the council because she still has to-- she can speak for herself-- she still has to evaluate it with the consultant and with cap to make sure that it is in line with what's expected to finish off the project.

If I can resolve it, because you can go back and forth. Again, I don't see an issue with the motion because the motion is basically saying, do everything you can to save the project, which is what we're going to be doing anyway. I think where the work is going to come in is, one, getting the statement from the school that Councilman Dreher said he got yesterday orally, and then second, just working out the issues that we have with the Pennoni.

Based upon what they initially sent us, I don't think that we're that far apart. I would imagine that within the next couple of weeks, all of those are going to be resolved. At the next council meeting in December, we will be getting a recommendation from the manager, and also, we would have ironed out by then the site location with the school.

**Cubillos:** Did you have a comment?

**Mathis:** I'm surprised that he got a meeting with Principal Lawrence quicker than I did because I've been calling them for three weeks and I haven't gotten a response from him at all.

**Dreher:** You know how I made that meeting? You talk to Ms. Plumber-- [crosstalk]
Mathis: [crosstalk] The assistant. I got to agree to [crosstalk] he told you that there was no problem with evening.

Dreher: Let me ask you another question. Has anybody else spoken with the principal?

Mathis: I spoke to him twice, but then we had this other issue and I called him called him. I sent him an email as well, and I haven't heard back from him for almost three weeks later.

Dreher: I just asked the question because I know during the previous meetings, some other folks have volunteered to go talk with him, so I'm asking this question has anybody spoken with Principal Lawrence?

Cubillos: I met with principal Lawrence on two separate occasions. I don’t have the exact [unintelligible 01:17:04] beginning of November. I met Darren, who's the new, they call them a junior assistant principal. His name is Darren Jones. He's really going to be the go-to person because Principal Lawrence has a lot going on. I met with Darren Jones, Ethel Sethwood, is the AP, and Principal Lawrence.

The discussions I had with them, I did not touch into very much nature trail or the septic to sewer. I really went in after all the emails that were going back and forth. I've put together a program with our student government and Ladies of Essence. I also met with them to confirm that we’ll be delivering the 25 turkeys. I went more in that aspect. While I was doing that, I didn't bring up the fact that the sewer the- I didn't think it was a good time. I wanted to more pacify the conversation.

After that, I invited them to the cancer walk that we had. The conversation has been going along that path, and then back and forth with the emails. They put me in contact of the young lady who addresses all of the children who are homeless. That's how we chose how the turkeys were going to be delivered to. I gave them an extra. Councilperson Mathis and [unintelligible 01:18:26] delivered the rest. On the day of distribution, [unintelligible 01:18:31] went and worked with them to do the distribution. I asked her because I was going to be on the south side. There--

?Roman: [inaudible 01:18:43].

Cubillos: We have-- [crosstalk]

Mathis: We tried.
Cubillos: The reason it matters is because, in the email that he sent us, he wants us to develop a relationship with him. He said in the email that if he feels like there's more of a community and development of a relationship and we go there and talk to the students, that he's more inclined to work with us. He put that in a very elaborate email and in a meeting, which is why we went there and I went to pacify that part of it. Since then, I've been keeping the conversations, but I think that as long as we get them in writing-- Vice Mayor Nickerson, did you have another comment?

Nickerson: Yes, Madam Mayor. Thank you very much. Very quickly. I'm looking at this, and I'm seeing three different things going on. I met recently with Principal Lawrence, and we spoke for maybe about 45 minutes just beside that. I'm looking at here, so the one thing is our administration and Pennoni and what you brought up, Madam Mayor, which is the 8% with the easement, and if that is in direct relation to the money that still needs to paid from being over already.

If that doesn't work itself out and we never get the design for the easement, it doesn't matter at that point if the school approves it or not if we can't get this part worked out. This part needs to be worked on-- There's three things that need to happen simultaneously. This part needs to be worked on.

Also, when I spoke to principal Lawrence, he told me the same thing, Councilperson Dreher, that he told you, he said he has no problem with the easement going to the southwest corner [inaudible 01:20:40] southwest corner. He did say some other stuff [inaudible 01:20:46] that's what it is.

I told him, I said, "Well, what you need to do then," I said, "you need to," because I work in the school board, and so on, I said, "What you need to do then, you need to contact your regional supervisor," which he said he was going to do. I said, "You need to write an email." You guys know I'm transparent with everything that I do. This is exactly what I told him to do. I said, "If you have a problem with the septic sewer easement being confined with the nature trail situation, I said, "Look," I said, "you can do this if it makes you feel better."

I said, "You can write an email to your regional supervisor saying that you approve and have no problem with the septic tank going into the southwest corner of the school, but you want to save discussion of the nature trail at a later time." I said, "If that's what you want to say," I said, "you can say that. Send that to your regional supervisor," I said, because I know how the school system works, it's politics also, I said, "He's going to have to approve that and then get it back to you so that you can send it in to us."
He said he would start working on that. I said, "Do that, because I don't have [unintelligible 01:21:56]" That's already in the works, hopefully. This was a week ago. That's already in the works.

Also, besides that, what my last question is right here on this email where it talks about a construction agreement would still be contingent on receiving a clear site certification in a timely manner. Your concern, Councilperson Dreher, is in February this meeting takes place, and that we need to have things ready in a timely manner.

My question to either Councilperson Dreher, or the manager, or whoever at Pennoni, whoever's working on the project, what would be a timely manner? If they consider a timely manner that you have to have this stuff submitted two months out, or a month and a half out, we have to know that because if that's the case, we need to tell Principal Lawrence, we need that email back by this time. We need to have Pennoni say we need this design done by at least this date. We need to have all this taken care of.

We need to find out- we need to contact them and say, "When you guys say a timely manner, give us a latest date to when this needs to be submitted to you guys." We need to find out.

**Christia:** If I could just answer that one, timeline, we want to be on the December agenda for the school board. That's why we need this written, whatever, documentation of the conversation that Principal Lawrence has had with you, or Councilperson Dreher, so that we can take that [unintelligible 01:23:33] final approval. That's what we have to have.

That would be in December if we can get this writing from Principal Lawrence. That's the only way we can then move on to the February. We do want that.

**Nickerson:** No, definitely, definitely.

**Christia:** I don't know the exact date, I'm sorry. Maybe-

**Nickerson:** December.

**Christia:** -[unintelligible 01:23:50] know the exact date of the school board meeting. I know that it's a December meeting. I don't think it's the beginning of December, but it's-- [crosstalk]

**Nickerson:** I don't want to cut you off. You were saying that you want the agenda for the--
Christia: Right, to get the school board present it through that [unintelligible 01:24:06]. We’ll take that with our package.

Nickerson: I'm going to wrap this up and start talking about [unintelligible 01:24:13]. I'm sorry about that. That would be the last thing because the attorney said that, you guys are working on it, we're all working on it, which is good, and maybe this can come back to the December meeting, but this has to be submitted like right before the December council meeting or after December. Then, it's the holidays. We need to get a definite date on what they consider timely manner, while everything else is taking place [inaudible 01:24:43] definitely get that date though.

Cubillos: There's a motion, and I just want to clarify the meaning to the amendment. I think that there's not a problem necessarily moving forward. I think the concern from- at least my concern is the cost of that 8% of what is it going to cost and the balance that's currently owed to you, I think it's a [unintelligible 01:25:02] agreement. I think there need to be contingencies. If we're going to move forward, it's contingent upon with the cost of the 8%, with the contingent of with what we owe you, and of course, the letter clarifying that [crosstalk]. Without those three components, it would be hard to move forward.

Nickerson: The next school board meeting is December 19th at 11:00.

Dreher: Sorry, quick question, Christia. Have you put yourself into the meeting, into the agenda for that meeting, or have you requested at attendance or hearing?

Christia: No, not yet.

Dreher: We’re just hoping that we will?

Christia: No, no, it's not that we're-- They know we are interested and keep saying it. We need to get something from the school that says that we can have it-- [crosstalk]

Dreher: Can we just- [crosstalk]?

Mathis: You can't request if you don't have anything to request. You just can't say I want to be at the meeting. It would have to be an agenda item.

Cubillos: The point that Vice Mayor Nickerson brought on is timeline and date. If we can get the timeline as far as what's realistic-- You spoke to the principal a week ago. I've met with
him two weeks ago. You just met with him yesterday. Now that you have this information, call
him and give him a deadline of what we need it by because if the deadline to get into school
board-- Not only that, the school board to get on that agenda, there's a deadline.

Dreher: Actually, I see this more as an administrative task. He's already committed to having
this. It's the administration to be following up on this, this is my request. [crosstalk]

Cubillos: There could be an email?

Dreher: Just let me clear this, we have administrative folks here. They have plenty of time.
We also have already committed. I want to make sure this is also prioritized as her items in the
next six weeks that we proceed. I know, Christia, you get bombarded by all of us, but the
reason why I'm bringing this to the table as well, I want to make sure that all the council
members here are in agreement that this is-- help us please [unintelligible 01:27:05] let me
get that.

Mathis: May I get it? I think that if you and Councilperson Nickerson have gotten this okay
from him, I think it would be best suited that you two, or one of you two get it. Evidently, he's
not responding to her. He's not responding to me, so you guys
must have something. If you
can get it, get it.

Dreher: Yes. It's a simple follow-up. I had to call four times, actually. It's just a matter of
following up. It's due diligence. I just started following up. I know. [unintelligible 01:27:37]
Porter said it. She even confused me [unintelligible 01:27:38] You had called actually.

Mathis: Several times.

Dreher: This is where my request is. We have an administration that has the time, the due
diligence to make sure they get on the calendar with Principal Lawrence, and I agree with this.
That's my request. I want this to be prioritized as well to [unintelligible 01:27:56] the village
manager to get on with the principal as well [unintelligible 01:28:03].

Christia: I will say to that end, that I do call Principal Lawrence regularly. As you may recall,
I sent him a long memo about the partnership offerings that we wanted to do with the school
board- or with the school. That was part of the issue that we'd raised in my meeting with him.
I will call him tomorrow at 10:00, and I will continue to call. [crosstalk]
Dreher: An email, people do not read email sometimes, Christia, I apologize. I did read the email as well from the proposal. I'm insisting, please reach out to him, insist every-- If I have to go with you, I'll go with you.

Christia: I also mailed a letter as well. I took it over there as well and left a form. I understand that. I tried a number of times to get through to him. I wanted to do some other things, but I understand about the bombardment. This was a priority. I understand that there's a timeline. I will continue to follow up with [inaudible 01:28:58] I'll call him again tomorrow.

Dreher: Thank you.

Cubillos: There's a motion that has been made by Councilperson Dreher, second by Mathis that needs to be voted on and/or amended with regards to ensuring that if we move forward, which I think we are agreeing, is contingent upon the fees and the easements, there's no point in moving forward if we don't have the fees discussed and the easement.

I'd like to make a recommendation for a motion that this motion to move forward is contingent upon that we have the easement written by Principal Lawrence and on the agenda for December, as well as the costs that have been incurred already, because all of the money have already outsourced or [unintelligible 01:29:41].

Dreher: Just to add clarity on that written statement, that written statement is not being requested from the school. It's being requested from the applicant. I'm going to have the engineering firm actually come up and correct that if that's not the case. If you allow me to bring the engineering firm to just clarify that recent statement that the State, the DEP State of Florida, Timothy Banks is requesting, and needs to comes from the village and not from the school board, just to add clarity.

Steve: Based on my experience doing this for 25 years, we've done that several times. The form you're referring to is set up for instances where applicants can't get the easements prior to applying for construction money. You just fill out this form and the statement that they want is what is your written plan and schedule for securing it to allow you to apply for construction money now. That doesn't hold up and jeopardize your chances of getting construction money.

I do want to say just real quick- I want to be on record on this, in my professional opinion after working in this program for 25 years, your last chance of my professional opinion to get this grant is for the full $4.8 million 80% is February of 2019. If you do not get it at that meeting, he's telling you in that email this year's funds, but it's actually two years of funds that have been built up due to this slow economy are going to be gone and you're going to be back to a
normal allocation of funds which is half the amount. Instead of being able to get $4.5 million, you're probably going to be able to get a max of $2.5 million.

When that happens, instead of having a $55,000 a year loan payment for 20 years, it increases it to $100,000 plus for 20 years payment. This February is an absolute-- It's the last shot; the last quarterly opportunity to apply for the construction money in my professional opinion for the full amount. That means you need to be shovel-ready by February. That doesn't mean have a council approval to accept the easement. We've got to go finish the design at the new location.

We started it. We're under contract to design in another location. We got to finish it the new location which we discovered in June. That’s why there's a need for additional money to redesigning the project. We’re negotiating that. I think we're close on that. I want to stress, if you're not shovel-ready, which means we need to be engaged to finish the design and secure the permits from the county because we're all going to be on vacation for the next month. That’s going to be the uphill battle, the longer we wait to authorize us to move forward.

**Dreher:** A quick question you mentioned a form. How this form has been socialized with the administration? Is that part of this written statement that you-- It's been mentioned here by [crosstalk]

**Steve:** Christia assigned the form and we submitted it back in July when we thought we were going to apply in October, at the August meeting. We had committed on that form. We provided that written statement in July. At that time, Robert was saying we were going to be on the July agenda for school board easements, but that, due to nobody's fault, and the meeting with the Commissioner, the school board revealed they won't going to let us put it there. Now, we have a new location. We need to readjust that statement on the form. We could have applied in November, but we missed that.

**Cubillos:** Steve, how are you?

**Steve:** I'm doing fine.

**Cubillos:** I understand that DEP may require that only a letter from the village of El Portal, but there is no way that I would agree that I'm going to speak or we should speak on behalf of the [unintelligible 01:33:38] school board. If they don't give it to us in writing, we should not be a saying that they said okay because conversations are great. You got to reduce to write in to mitigate lawsuits.
I really believe that they need to have that in writing, that's number one. It cannot come from Councilperson Dreher, it cannot come from manager. It needs to come from him in a letterhead. Not in an email; in a letterhead. That's my first thing, and I'm not an attorney.

The second thing is we also need to be better partners here. You need to be a little more proactive as it relates to the expenses and where we are at, and timelines because we've been working together for almost two years now next May. All of us here ask for timelines, timelines, timelines, and we don't get there and we're always rush, rush, rush, we got to pay you. Then, look what happened. Naturally, we used up all the money, and now we don't have the design.

You’re telling us to be in a rush, but you don’t have a design ready and we've already paid you. The council all voted for this project. The residents have come to town hall. They want this. Forget about they want; we need this project. It's what we need. If we consider about the climate change, we [unintelligible 01:34:52], we need this to happen but you have to steer us in that direction. You have to be a little more mindful and letting us know if we hit our budget, what are we doing. You’re the expert. We’re not, in this. You're the expert.

Please, Councilperson Dreher has gotten this far. Now we're going to have to follow up. We’re going to try to get the letter, but you also have to let us know not the day before, what the cost of that 8% is going to be. Just looks like we're giving deadlines. You need to give a deadline that right now we owe you all this money because we've used up all our money and we don't have a design. Let’s all set realistic dates that we're all going to follow, Steve.

Dreher: Just to add some clarity, and just to be fair to the Steve who has been putting a lot of effort and to give him credit as well, based on that individual sessions, we all had as council members with Christia, with Robert, with our village attorney and with Cal, basically the way it works is we have $435,000 for the design phase. There’s a stipulation in the contract based on what they sign. If there's a change, and I have here a copy that I asked them, where is in the contract states if there's a change in the pumping station, there isn't-- This I also got it during that meeting.

There is an agreement that needs to be assigned by both parties on that change of the location. What happened? The change of the pumping station was changed from location, what was it, number three to number seven now. There was that whole stipulation in the contract that says, and here's their contract that I was [unintelligible 01:36:34] for it because I asked that same question. I wanted to see it. I asked for my village management as well to provide it, but I had to go and ask them to actually send me this.
There's a stipulation in the contract just to be clear that if there's a change in the pumping station location, both parties are subject to agree on that change. That’s what they have proposed here. They’ve send a resolution to Christia, to Norman as well, and the actual $85,000 that they were originally proposing is being reduced to $60,000. That’s what the next steps is Christia to review this and to comfort that proposal for us.

Let me add to something as well on the timeline. We also have contracted a project manager here, Robert Ruano. Where is he, and hear him in the audience? He’s responsible for keeping the metrics which is another deficiency that I uncovered based on this meeting we don't have. As a project manager that we hired from the village to oversee the help from the Pennoni team, we do not have any metrics. When I speak on metrics, we do not have what the percent complete on the project. What I was given by the project manager was an email by the Pennoni team. This is where the Pennoni team provided me that percent complete.

I said, "No. I'm sorry, you are the project manager. You are responsible for maintaining the percent completed on the project. Where is your timeline? You need to get all that update for us when you come here," but I don't see the project manager here. That is another concern that I brought up to Christia. We’re now paying $2,000 per month to the project manager. I want to see specifically as well from what he's doing for the next couple of weeks. I want to see where he spent it. I asked Christia yesterday. I asked Christia what is Runao project manager doing. What was the response? Stop.

**Christia:** I didn't stop. [crosstalk]

**Cubillos:** I have a couple of questions. Councilperson Dreher, I have a couple of questions. You are stating that you-- because you brought up the contract I'm going to add to that. You have an email that Steve Elias sent with regards to the change in the location. What’s the date in the email?

**Dreher:** The 15th.

**Cubillos:** The 15th of what month?

**Dreher:** Here.

**Cubillos:** No, not the contract; when he asked, when he told us that there was a change in site.

**Dreher:** I don't have that email.
Cubillos: I thought you did. To my recollection after the meeting that I had, what had really happened was the money ran out in May, but we already knew that you all-- excuse me-- you all knew that the billed bail. That’s the first thing. The second thing, since this Councilperson Dreher brought off the contract, that was a contract that was done by David Roseman and Joe Geller. I sat in that meeting. No one else did. I told the attorney back then, and I told Dave Roseman that that agreement and that contract is not in the best interest of the village of El Portal. I'm sorry, to the best interest of you, but it's too ambiguous.

I was like, "Oh, no don't worry mayor. Don’t worry mayor," in David Roseman sides of things. That contract, it lends for extra cost. There’s no special specifics. That's a whole other conversation but I'm going to bring that up because you brought off the contract. I have the contract and in my file, [unintelligible 01:39:55] Pennoni. I was really specific, but there was a different player back then. There was a different attorney, there was a different manager. Unfortunately, we're stuck with this contract for this project, but there are concerns.

It's not to say that we're not doing our due diligence, but Robert Ruano was here. Did you tell Robert Ruano that you were going to be discussing this at public work? Generally, at our committee reports, they're not as entailed so maybe just like before Juan left, Juan asked the clerk to ask me if I was going to need [unintelligible 01:40:23] maybe we should've told Robert Ruano because I was going to ask him why isn't he here. He was here last- [crosstalk]

Dreher: I requested Robert Ruano during our one on one meetings we had to send me meeting minutes. I sent meeting minutes. I requested for him to send me meeting minutes, our conversation I had with Norman, with Christia, with myself. I'm waiting on those meeting minutes right now.

Cubillos: Definitely if he needs to stay here, he needed to stay here, that's 100%.

Steve: This isn't public wo-- it's a full council meeting. It's a report that--

Cubillos: With that said, in an effort to move forward, there's a lot of different variables involved and they all involve timelines. If the motion is to allow the administration to do as much as we can to push the project forward, which I believe we all agree, there has to be contingency. The contingency is a letter from the school board, the principal saying that this is the easement that they authorized, on letterhead. Then, we need a cost from you as far as what the cost of 8% that we still don't have a design, and then the other cost that we owe you, there's something that you all are working on, you've got to present to us. All these, we need.
As the council asked you all, what timeline do we want to give the principal and Pennoni to get us these numbers so that we can meet the deadline to meet the February-- We need to find out what the school board deadline is to get in their agenda.

**Dreher:** Who is going to find out that deadline to get into the school board agenda?

**Mathis:** Who?

**Dreher:** To that point you just made, who's going to find out the deadline for getting into the school board agenda?

**Christia:** I can find out.

**Dreher:** You will? Okay.

**Cubillos:** The manager will find that out. Tamara, I'm sure that the deadline is something that you can call any of the administration there and find out. Once we find out the deadline, what's a realistic deadline that we can give the principal? He told you a week ago, yes, he told you today, yes, or yesterday. Excuse me. Is it realistic maybe next Friday that we want the letter from the principal by December-- I think next Friday is December 7th?

**Nickerson:** I'll stay on top it. The problem is with the school system, the school board is that- - I'm not speaking for him, but if he could just sit there and write the letter that we want him, he has to send it out to his regional supervisor. They have to approve it and get it back to him. I don't know if his supervisor, he could be out of town. I don't know. Let me talk to him tomorrow. Yes, let me talk to him tomorrow. I'm going to go to the school tomorrow.

**Cubillos:** You're going to go to the school in the hopes that he's already been doing this because he spoke to you a week ago, so maybe he's already sent the letter to the regional superintendent. Then you're going to let the manager know and the manager to let us know. When you go and speak to Principal Lawrence, you've got to push for a deadline date. That’s the date that if you've already discussed for a week, I would say next Wednesday, Friday the latest, especially since it's contingent upon the deadline to get into the school board agenda.

**Dreher:** If I could just make one point in this that involves Norman. Just for the record, we provided the legal description of the easement back in June, I think, for Robert for the pump station at number seven. I'm assuming there has to be an easement agreement. I'm not sure if Norman, or I'm not sure if the school board attorney does that, but that's probably an action also that has to be prepared to get on the agenda.
Norman: [crosstalk] conversation they can have and it usually comes out of the school board and county side, and then we look at it. If I have to drop it, I could just use the legal description.

Dreher: There's a sketch and a description and-- It's actually granted probably to the county because they're the ones who maintain it.

Cubillos: Yes, usually, the [unintelligible 01:44:21] but either way, we also need- along with the letter, we're going to need the easements agreement or contract that's going to come with it.

Dreher: To put it on the agenda.

Cubillos: When you find out that the date tomorrow to get on the agenda, you got to let Vice Mayor Nickerson know, so when you go see the principal, hopefully, he has moved it, and we can hope we have the letter by Wednesday, let's put it at December 5th?

Dreher: 12th.

Cubillos: No. [crosstalk]

Dreher: Yes, the following week.

Cubillos: You have a deadline. You have information to [unintelligible 01:44:55].

Steve: We have submitted the addendum revised, reduced. We stand ready to come to the council meeting and explain it if we have to. We just need to get on. I just fear it's-- [crosstalk]

Cubillos: Excuse me. I'm sorry. You have the cost of the 8% already?

Norman: [unintelligible 01:45:14] sent this. That’s what I mentioned last week on Wednesday.

Cubillos: We need to have a discussion. Can we have that by Friday via email sent to the council?

Christia: Yes.

Cubillos: Friday is November 30th. Yes, we're trying to move on, but there is a motion that needs to pass, or it needs to be voted on. There's a motion made by Councilperson Dreher, and Councilperson Mathis. Councilperson Mathis just had to leave. His mother fell. The motion is
to let's get the project moving forward contingent upon the following deadlines that we have just put in place.

Deadline number one is the manager will let the Vice Mayor Nickerson know tomorrow the date to get on the school board agenda. Number two, Vice Mayor Nickerson will meet with the principal and will hopefully have a letter on letterhead to us by Wednesday, December 5th.

While that is happening, the attorney is going to work on whether that's an easement that the school’s going to do, or he's going to have to do, all in the hopes to get onto the December 19th school board agenda.

Dreher: I'm sorry. My main interest is that we submit this for the February period.

Cubillos: Yes we're doing all this. Remember, this is the motion to move forward with all of these contingencies. The only contingency I'm missing is-- The last one is you have to let us know what the cost is for the 8% by Friday, for the debrief with Christia. That's Friday, November 30th. There's a motion with these contingencies, and there's a second. [inaudible 01:46:46]?

Nickerson: No, I just want to say, I do want to find out Councilperson Dreher or the administration and the village manager, when they say timely manner, can we get a clarification or date to when that has to be submitted before that February.

Steve: I can answer that question. As long as you fill of the form, you just have to list what your schedule is. Technically, you can-- you don't need to secure the easements until the final punch list of construction. I used to think it was prior to bidding it. That's probably not smart to do that, but you do not have to secure the easement until that's part of bidding realistically.

You can apply for funding in February, and still not have your easement at hand. That's what the limited site certification form allows you to do. The timeline he's asking for is just for the schedule. What is your schedule?

Cubillos: There is a--

Nickerson: That's not what he's asking for. I'm not saying you got it wrong, you know I love you, my brother. Can we doublecheck on that? Can we doublecheck on it because the email does say exactly what Councilperson Werner just said?

?Christia: [unintelligible 01:47:57] the timely manner?
Nickerson: Yes, can we do that, please? Thank you.

Cubillos: I actually made a motion with the amendments. I need a second.

Nickerson: Second.

Cubillos: Second by Vice Mayor Nickerson. Any discussion?

Dreher: Can you repeat the motion?

Yenise: There's a motion to move the project forward with the following contingencies. Number one is the manager must call the school board tomorrow with regards to what is the deadline to get on the agenda. I'll pass on that information to Vice Mayor Nickerson. Vice Mayor Nickerson is going to be meeting with the principal in the hopes that in the last week that he's already met with him, he's already sent the letter in and we're going to have the letter by Wednesday, December 5th on letterhead.

In the interim, the manager's reviewing the documentation that Pennoni has sent to the manager and the attorney with the cost that is going to be cut back, and the cost that the 8% to finish the entire design of the project. That, you should have to us by Friday, November 30th.

Also, while this is happening, the attorney is going to be working on the easement, or working with the attorney with the school board to be sure if we have to do it, then we're doing it; if they're going to do it, then they're doing it, so we have to find that information out. That should be coincided with the Wednesday, December 5th deadline, and all this to get on the December 19th school board agenda, and of course to meet the deadline in February. That is my motion with the amendment.

Dreher: Actually, I would just make sure we are in that public meeting, make sure that the DEP public meeting which is stated here in the email which is scheduled for February 2019.

Cubillos: There's no date. All of this is to push the project forward to meet the deadline, to meet the public meeting that's set in February 2019. That is my motion with the amendment, and been seconded by Vice Mayor Nickerson. Any discussion? Hearing that, there's going to be a roll call.

Yenise: Roll call, Councilperson Dreher?

Dreher: Yes.
Yenise: Councilperson Roman?

Roman: Yes.

Yenise: Councilperson [unreadable 01:50:06]. Vice Mayor Nickerson?

Nickerson: Yes.

Yenise: Mayor Cubillos?

Cubillos: Yes.

Yenise: Motion passes everyone.

Cubillos: Does that conclude your report?

Dreher: My other piece of the report is that if we're going to move forward and this is something I had discussed as well with Christia. We're going to move forward with the construction piece. I see there's deficiency with the project management area. I want us to be very stern in looking into from our side, the project management. The capacity we've hired from this firm, that they can actually provide those matrix to keep up with the percent complete.

As we'll be on track as what's the building that's coming in. Help us oversee that, because from that meeting that we had, all the $435,000 grant had been exhausted already. My question was- - Okay, fine. Madam Mayor, it's a two end communication as well.

Cubillos: No, go ahead. I just asked for [unreadable 01:51:14].

Dreher: I need you to be paying attention to this please. I'll wait till you guys finish.

[background conversation]

Dreher: Are you guys done?

?Roman: Go ahead, Councilperson Dreher.

Dreher: It doesn't seem like you're done.

[background conversation]
Dreher: [unintelligible 01:51:55] All right. Part of this meeting as well that we had on our one on one for at least two hours with the city manager, with the attorney. We've got to make sure that we, in our capacity, as a project manager, we've hired that firm that they're overseeing what the percent complete, how much are we going ahead and making sure we're approving for that billing from state grant money.

Because what happens, in this particular case, the $435,000 grant has already been exhausted. To your point, what's the end product? My concern was why did we go ahead and just approved all that entire grant money when we don't even have an end product? What's the end product that we're talking about? It's the actual design piece and as well the actual permit. We don't have that.

My point was that why did we authorize to get that approval of the entire $435,000 in grant money? That's what I want to make sure that we move forward when we eventually get to that construction phase that we have that strong resilience from the project manager in perspective to be keeping track as well those matrix, those what has been part of the completion of the project and as well what's being built. That was my recommendation to the village manager as well. That pretty much concludes the report that I have in mind.

Cubillos: [unintelligible 01:53:22] Robert Warner?

Dreher: Apologies for it. I'm sorry, my apologies for the audience. We've been trying to push this for the last three months, four months to what we got here, so we needed to have this discussion.

Cubillos: Okay, you'll follow up with Robert on that. Okay. Next, we have Administration and Finance, Chairperson Roman.

Roman: I don't have anything to report. We managed the report [unintelligible 01:53:52].

Cubillos: I'm sorry, go ahead.

Judge Pedrosa: [unintelligible 01:54:01]

Cubillos: Do you have 10 more minutes? We'll be done in 10 minutes. Admin and Finance, does that concludes your report?

Roman: Correct.
Cubillos: Okay. The last two reports are Planning and Zoning and the Public Safety of the above committees that I chair. I had a whole report written out and I was going to read it during my Mayor's report, but I decided not to. It goes over things that I do on a day to day basis and how we work with the administration. Because we have some of the residence here, one of the things that I wanted to touch on is public safety and social media and being up here elected.

It's not as glamorous as you all may think it is. In fact, it's not glamorous at all. It's gotten whether it's the world that we live in today or whether it's social media that everybody loves to be behind social media, it's really rough. I think residence forget that we're human and we have families. As we are going to be sworn in this evening, you all may think it's funny, but I don't. A resident told me, "Why you do that? Just leave it alone." You know what? You're right. It would be so much easier for us not to do anything. For us to come every month, for us to just to go through the agenda, and it would just be easier.

I truly believe in the 10 years that I've been here that we're trying to really do what's in the best interest of the village. I do believe that most people can get comfortable in positions, but I don't. I sincerely believe in what I do. I live here, I work here, and in the last year and a half, it's been really interesting. I get a lot of anonymous letters calling me everything under the sun. My husband, my family, it's all over social media. The residents call me and they're like, "Why do you do this?" Well, somebody has to.

What I always admired about myself, I'm not one to really talk about myself, but when I got elected in '08, I'm the same person today. I still work at the same passion. I still work at the same energy level. I don't work any less. I don't care any less. In fact, I care so much more. What really has saddened me, I think, is that although I have built great relationships with a lot of you, I've lost a lot, and I don't even know why.

So much happened in this village that the residents don't know. So much happened to the administration that the residents don't know. We get bombarded with public records requests and we don't even have a staff and we're trying to juggle public works request because if we don't do it then we're not complying with the law, which we have to get the jobs done but it's hard to get the jobs done when every other email is a public records request.

You all may think that crying is a sign of weakness. There's nothing about me that's weak. It's just really disheartening, and I will do it and I believe in giving term limits to [unintelligible 01:58:09] because I think it's important. Just remember, we're human, and we live here, and I pay taxes. I think most of us here pay taxes. I care. I care a lot and I'm not going to sit back
and allow any administration to just walk all over the village because-- No offense to the administration, but they don't live here, we do. We care.

When we have to hold the manager, chief, the clerk, and every employee accountable, I'm going to do it because it's her job. We have to do it. As hard as it is to do it because you create friendships. You begin to care for people, but you lose friendships because you try to do the right thing. What you all may see as being rude or disrespectful, you have no idea what we go through on a day to day here trying to get things done so we don't have to bring it to the public.

So that we try to get things done because by the time we get to you all, we've exhausted all those resources and options to go and private and have these meetings and address it because we want nothing more than to all of us to thrive. I don't want the city to be bankrupt, I don't want that my two property values to go down in the village of El Portal. I don't want the kids that my school takes care of to be unsafe. I really care.

Maybe it doesn't look that way to you all, maybe it doesn't look the way that we care. I can wholeheartedly say that it would be so much easier to leave the status quo. It would be easier, leave the manager, leave the chief, leave the clerk, leave all the people that have been here forever and let them just run our town. Let them, we can do that. It would be easy.

We come every fourth Tuesday of the month and we passed the minutes. It would be so easy to leave the status quo, but I refuse to walk out and have left this status quo because when I'm done being the mayor, I'm still going to live here. I'm still going to own properties here, I still run a business here. I care. I choose the who line of I work, live and play. I literally work, live and play in this town and of the 1.4 radius and I care.

I care that the police department is doing the right job. I care that they have what they need to have, I care that the administration is responsible for that. If you think for one second that I'm nice to Priscia or I'm nice to Eunice? No. I'm nice if you're doing your job because you all hold us accountable because you're supposed to. We have to hold them accountable. How would you think that that's wrong? It's not. You cannot come to one meeting and understand it all, it's too hard.

That's why you all elect a government so that we can do all of these on our spare time. When most of us- I'll speak for myself, I put in 30 to 40 hours a week at the village of El Portal. Why? Because you all elected me to do that, and I do it. I don't care if I get a 1000, I don't care if I get 2000, I don't care if I get nothing. I remember I was one of the ones that told Jason Walker to get rid of this [unintelligible 02:01:17] because what's 3000 or 2000 a year.
I just say to you, you don't have to like us, you don't have to agree with us but just ask us. Just email us and ask. If you don't like our answer, then come to the meeting. When you cannot come to the meeting and expect to understand that material that Erwin gave us, that's impossible. You don't think it's hard, I don't know with the council, but I've seen you all and you're nodding your head no. I think I work so hard and I do it because I care and I put myself in that position.

Be a little mindful because we are all human and a lot of you have been really unkind anonymous, bad anonymous, just the next door, Facebook, email. It's been really ugly, beyond ugly. That, I felt it was really important to say because as I go into my next two years, I'm going to continue to do with heart because I have done it for 10 years. I will battle all the residents that fight because you want the administration that has been here forever even though they don't live here. We really care what's happening here.

I encourage, I implore, call me and text me. Most of you have my number. I usually try to reach back as soon as I can. Don't just assume, actually call us, actually meet with us. That concludes my report.

**Audience:** Thank you.

**Cubillos:** Attorney Norman Powell, your report.

**Norman:** Pretty much gave it. Just the highlights, we worked on the Interim Police Chief's contract, resolutions to the meetings and we've been having numerous meetings concerning the septic and sewer projects and what's got the highlights of it in the last discussion.

**Cubillos:** Does that conclude your report?

**Norman:** Yes, ma'am.

**Cubillos:** Very good. You're back. Okay. [chuckle] Right now, we have the swearing-in, Judge Pedrosa. Thank you for waiting. You can go ahead and proceed now.

**Pedrosa:** I'd like to call down the Council members for swearing-in now and then I'll swear-in the Mayor.

[background sounds]
Pedrosa: All right. Please raise your right hand and repeat after me. I, state your name, a citizen of the state of Florida and of the United States of America. Do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support, protect, and defend the constitution of the United States of America and of the state of Florida and that I will, in all respects, observe the provisions of the charter and ordinances of the village of El Portal, and I will faithfully discharge the duties of council member on which I'm about to enter. Congratulations.

Council Members: I, [crosstalk] a citizen of the state of Florida and of the United States of America. Do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support, protect, and defend the constitution of the United States of America and of the state of Florida and that I will, in all respects, observe the provisions of the charter and ordinances of the village or El Portal, and I will faithfully discharge the duties of Council member on which I'm about to enter.

[applause]

[background conversation]

Pedrosa: I, for one, I don't live in El Portal but let me tell you I think that your Mayor is wonderful and I appreciated her passionate speech tonight, I really.

[applause]

Pedrosa: Please repeat after me. I, Claudia Cubillos, a citizen of the state of Florida and of the United States of America, do hereby solemnly swear or affirm that I will support, protect and defend the constitution of the United States of America and the state of Florida, and that I will, in all respects, observe the provisions of the charter and ordinances of the village of El Portal, and will faithfully discharge the duties of mayor of which I'm about to enter.

Cubillos: I, Claudia Cubillos, a citizen of the state of Florida and of the United States of America do hereby solemnly swear or affirm that I will support, protect and defend the constitution of the United States of America and the state of Florida, and that I will in all respects observe the provisions of the charter and ordinances of the village of El Portal, and will faithfully discharge the duties of a Mayor of which I'm about to enter.

[applause]

[pause 02:07:08]
Cubillos: Thank you, Judge Pedrosa, for staying a little late with us here. Next on the agenda we have at the first meeting of the new council, we have the selection of the Vice Mayor. At this time, I would like to ask any member of the council if you're interested in being considered for the Vice Mayor, if you would please go to the podium and for a minute or two tell us a little bit about why you believe that you should be the next Vice Mayor for the next two years. Then, what happens to the council, some new member has to nominate, there's going to be a second and then we can vote on.

[pause 02:08:41]

Nickerson: How are you guys doing? How is everybody? Good to see everybody out here tonight, how are you guys doing? Man, I've been Vice Mayor for many, many years.

?Christia: [unintelligible 02:09:09]

Nickerson: Yes, I said I've been Vice Mayor for many years. One thing that is really different tonight is simply-- The mic is working. Are we good here? Are we good right here?

Audience: Yes.

Nickerson: All right, thank you. I appreciate it. One thing that is different tonight is that when I was just here I was given when we were doing the swearing-in. This is the first swearing-in where my kids aren't with me tonight, the first one [unintelligible 02:09:49]. They've been with me every swearing-in before this. When everything is good all the time, things are really easy. It's when things aren't so good is when you really realize just how the world can be. The type of person you need to be, to be able to handle everything that comes towards you.

I used to always think in life, if you go through life and you treat everybody nicely and try to do the right thing all the time, that everything would always just be happening nicely to me. I always thought that. Just going through the situation with my wife and that went on, it really opened up my eyes as far as how somebody can look into your eyes and change your life so quickly just like that from one second to another. To take everything you ever worked for and to say, "I'm going to destroy your life."

It would have been one thing if I wouldn't let that affect me to where it affected my work, affecting my position as Vice Mayor. When this happened on November the 4th, throughout all that time and gone through all those situations, I missed one meeting. Counting down the council meetings, but committee meetings, I missed one meeting throughout all of it. The only
reason why I missed that meeting was because I was in court that night. Tried to get out all the time. [chuckles] Her lawyer kept, "More time, more time." Couldn't get out one time.

There has been times where the 80th anniversary and things like that, where I'm talking about something and it gets to me. Every time I was up here, I always have a smile on my face. Every meeting, I was always cordial with everybody. I've never let any type of stress or any type of sadness of just losing everything overnight. I've never let that affect me up there. I've never brought my problems to work, so to say. I've never gone around and just pivoting and I don't want to talk about that. It gone too much and bore you out of that.

I've never been a type of person to where I've been devious about anything towards anybody. I don't want to run around and talk about you behind your back. I try to help out every situation that's there. If it's a situation where people aren't getting along perfectly, I always say to everybody I'm still transparent up there. Recently, there were situations to where there was problems with the police department and individuals on the council. As soon as I found out those issues, the next day I was having meetings [unintelligible 02:14:16] those are my people. I was having a meeting with everybody even though I wasn't involved in that situation.

What's going on tonight with Councilperson Dreher and the septic, sewer and public works. I'm not in the Public Works Committee. I might be on the Public Works Committee. When I went with the principal, did I tell anybody up here before I went and met with the principal that I was going to meet him? No. Even though I'm now in the committee I still want to meet with the principal. See?

You guys all know that I'm half African American, half Native American, right? My dad's African American but he left when I was three years old. My mom's a Native American and she was on South Dakota. She's a sew. Like [unintelligible 02:15:04] she bids on the reservation for the whole family. We even never celebrated Thanksgiving. I've never put my personal feelings and say it because I feel about this personally. Then I'm not going to do it in my job. This is the first time [unintelligible 02:15:19] they don't even know about this. We never celebrated Thanksgiving but I'm always here to support the village for Thanksgiving. I have never brought it up. All right.

With this, conducted my committee meetings and things like that, I always bring here anybody in where you're being inclusive with everybody. I just think that I've done what I can as Vice Mayor. There's much more for me to do. I'll continue to bring everybody together, I'll continue to work hard, I'll continue to stand up and never let anything personal that happens to me, affect me in my work environment.
I love all of you guys, even those who I might disagree with. I tell everybody, everybody who've never been up there I told them and I say, "Look, we all want the best for the village. We just have different ideas on how to get there." That's all I did. We all want what's best for the village. We just have different ideas on how to get there. I think I've been a good Vice Mayor. I think I've been a good second to the Mayor.

When you guys see me there, unless I have something to say, I sit there humbly and keep my mouth shut. Mayor Lee, I never tried to take her shine. I never tried to outshine anybody or try to be in a limelight or anything like that. I humbly ask your vote as Vice Mayor to continue and become a better man than I've been so far. Thank you very, very much.

[applause]

Cubillos: Any other member of the council that wants to be considered for Vice Mayor, please [unintelligible 02:17:12].

Mathis: Harold Mathis. I am the Senior Member of the Council. I have worked my butt off tireless for a day in the village. This past term really put things in perspective to me with regards to not only chairing public affairs. I took used from a great leader. Coming into politics, I was always taught to just be quiet, listen, listen, listen, and then you speak. I've always used that.

There was a person that came in. I took her under my wing, didn't want to. I took her under my wing and that person is now the Mayor. To say that the teacher doesn't become a student, that was lost on me, but I think I've been taught by one of the best. With that being said, I am going to announce my candidacy for Mayor, for 2020. I hope I can get your vote for Vice Mayor so I can continue the legacy.

[applause]

Cubillos: Thank you. Any other member of the council? Okay. Seeing then is there a motion to nominate any of the two applicants that have their name forward?


Cubillos: There's a motion for Omarr Nickerson. Is there a second?

Dreher: I second the motion.
Cubillos: It's been second by Councilperson Dreher. Yenise, can you roll call, please.

Yenise: Roll call. Councilperson Dreher.

Dreher: Yes.

Yenise: Councilperson Roman.

Roman: Yes.

Yenise: Councilperson Mathis.

Mathis: No.

Yenise: Vice Mayor Nickerson.

Nickerson: Yes.

Yenise: Mayor Cubillos.

Cubillos: [unintelligible 02:19:52]. Yes.

?Roman: Congratulations.

Cubillos: Congratulations.

[applause]

Cubillos: Does he have to be sworn in as Vice Mayor?

?Roman: No.

Yenise: Would you like to say anything?

Mathis: I have said-- [crosstalk]

Yenise: At this time, Good Welfare. Now, you can ask the manager questions. State your name and address for the record.
David: [inaudible 02:20:31] 88 Northeast, 90th street. A couple of council wanted to ask about. One is the Septic to Sewer Project. I'm guilty of what the Mayor said is it's popping in every now and then and not understanding totally what's going on. When I was sitting there listening to the discussion about the Septic to Sewer, my reaction was is that there are too many chiefs and not enough Indians in this project.

To be honest, I was quite surprised when Councilman Dreher said that we have a project manager on this. The question I'd like to ask to Councilman Dreher and Councilman Nickerson, is when you met with the principal or you met with Pennoni, was that project manager with you, and if not, why not?

Nickerson: All right. As I stated, when I was down there speaking, I'm that on the Public Works Committee. When I went to meet with with the principal, I went as the Vice Mayor to meet with the principal. I called a few times, couldn't get him. What I did was, I just showed up.

David: I understand. Somy question was-

Nickerson: And met with him.

David: -is why project manager, the person that we're paying to oversee this project, the person that we're paying to manage your funds to make sure that as an administration we do the right thing. Why was he not there?

Nickerson: I think for me the short answer is simply is sometimes in order to get everybody's schedule clear in order to get those meetings done with everybody's schedule, it would take another week or something. I just wanted to meet with him and get that part established so I could get him to get that communication out to the Regional Supervisor. I didn't wait to get that done.

David: Did you provide a written report to the project manager or to anybody on administration?

Nickerson: I did not. No.

David: Same questions for you Councilman Dreher, was the project manager with you? I guess that's the first question.
Dreher: So you understand the background in this. The project manager and the village manager had already met with the School principal a couple months ago. Right? Ten brought the concern that the principal was requiring some- [crosstalk] -more presence from the village. We took it upon ourselves to actually have that face to face introduction with the principal. I met with him in two occasions so that way it worked the first time. I took the day off from work--

David: I understand that and I'm not criticizing.

Dreher: No, no, no. [crosstalk]

David: I appreciate people [crosstalk] with meetings.

Dreher: Just to give you some background here as well. It has been a little hard to attain. I walked in myself. Actually, I called Christia, who the project manager reports to on that day. Unfortunately, Christia had other items to review. I met with him at that time. I informed the rest of the council members. I think the project manager was here and I informed my meeting discussion with respect to the septic to sewer pumping stations, that there was no concerns about it and I informed him. I think it might've been in the August meeting. I informed to everybody this.

Not everybody was in the same page, how is it possible that principal told the project manager and the village manager this other information that he told you. I went ahead and tried three times. I called the administrator at the school.

David: I'm not asking you to [crosstalk] again. It's a simple question. Why wasn't the project manager with you or with you? My concern is--

Dreher: Nobody was--

David: -that there are so many people doubting there's nobody managing the project.

Dreher: Correct. Just so you understand how it works. I've tried three times directly trying to find a meeting with him. There was no response. Finally, on yesterday, I took the day off. It was a short minute. I spoke with Ms. Plummer. I said, "Ms. Plummer, I've been trying to get a hold. This has been the third time that I've been trying to speak with the principal and what's going on?" You know what she said, "Can you make it here in the next hour?"
After trying to meet with him too, I immediately actually have a text. I send it to Christia. I said, "Christia, can you please call me back?" That was an hour notice. I said, "Christia can you call me back?" - "I'm sorry, I'm attending a luncheon at this time." Receiving this email and the project managers, I like to go through Christia everything. Being the case she had and having this email? Yes, I took it upon myself to go actually meet with the principal and to get that information. It was the second time, so yes. [crosstalk] You're asking too much. [crosstalk]

David: Everybody will have their turn on the microphone. Let me--

Cubillos: [unintelligible 02:25:55] for the project manager-

David: Sorry?

Cubillos: -even though I try not to speak for other people, but he is under my purview and the project manager has gone to meet with the principal on a number of occasions and I've gone with him. Sometimes you just have to pop up so that is what Vice Mayor Nickerson and Councilperson Dreher are saying that they too had to pop up. The project manager has been very involved in the project. There are some things we will have to discuss.

In fact, I'm scheduling a meeting with him tomorrow morning so that we can talk more about just more addressing some Vice Mayor Nickerson and Councilperson Dreher had and perhaps addressing these things so that we all are on the same page. We will do that. He has been involved in those all the time.

David: Okay. Thank you. My opinion, it's a very important project, but it appears from a bystander that it's not being managed well and the cost overruns. I keep hearing that Peronio Pennoni says that, that there are 8% from completion. From the village standpoint, we're really at 0% because we've paid them $435,000 and we have nothing. My concern is this, who the heck is managing that? Is it the village manager? Is that project manager? I'm not expecting answers--

Cubillos: Okay. Then I wanted to speak about the payments. It wasn't that they billed us every month and we reviewed and got deliverables from that. It wasn't built that way. We got a bunch of bills all like over the course of a couple of months, midyear, I would say between May and June altogether. We [unintelligible 02:27:35] everything was all schedule and we would submit to the state. We asked for deliverables and those invoices from Pennoni. They said they didn't have to do it as a flat fee. The state accepted them and paid off the money so we pay it a month. That's how it got-- [crosstalk] We're paying all of it.
David: Okay. Thank you. My second subject and I'll try to be brief before they accused me of talking longer than Omarr.

[laughter]

David: It's regarding Public Safety. Just a couple things. In fairness, everybody on the podium. Everybody in the audience is concerned about public safety. I don't think anybody should discount anybody else who's concerned about public safety. If you're a resident in El Portal and you don't know your neighbor across the street and you don't have their phone number, you don't have the neighbor to the left or the right or on the other side, see me after the meeting. It'd be great to set up a crime watch group on your block.

Now, Northeast Miami court is well represented. Thank you for being here. I think it's great that residents challenge elected officials, but I think it's also great if we do it in a respectful manner. I think it's good if we don't lead to conclusions and give you a further example. We walked in here, there was a whole gallery of police from different police forces and already heard the conspiracy theories about what was happening back there.

Whatever your viewpoint is whatever you think the village needs to do or it doesn't need to do, just please make sure that you have the facts and don't jump to all conclusions. Again, if you have an interest in forming a crime watch group when your block, I'll stick around a little bit after the meeting. That's probably the easiest thing we can do to help make the neighborhood safe.

I'll give you an example. Last week on our block, one of our residents was that a town, pulled up to the phone list, called me first and said, "Hey, my fire detector is going off. Can you go across it and check it before I call the fire department?" I said, "No, I'm out of town." She went to the next person on that phone [unintelligible 02:29:45] and called her. She ended up calling three people. She actually had three people, go to her house and check on it. That's really what crime watch is all about. If you don't have crime watch in your block, please see me after the meeting. Thank you all. [crosstalk]

[applause]

Liliana Pico: Liliana Pico, 181 northwest, 87th street. Congratulations, everybody. Hi, Claudia. [laughs]. Miss Manager, quick question, going back to council juror's question is, why did you pay $435 if you never question where is it going to?
Christia: It wasn't that we didn't question it, we did but it was a flat fee contract that overestimated the invoices and we were all on schedule. We were actually expecting that we were going to the FDP this date in August. We were moving fast and everything was coming together. We didn't know we were going to hit that roadblock from the county saying that that location wasn't acceptable. They submitted the invoices. We kept asking, "Can you please give us some details? We don't know who we're getting." It was a flat fee contract and they weren't compelled to itemize it.

Liliana: If we do miss a deadline in February, does that mean we lose $435,000?

Christia: No. It means that we will go to a May meeting and then we'll be out of if we don't get through the May meeting then we're out of the fiscal year but we could apply for the next fiscal year. Now what Mr. Alysa was stating is that $4 million may not be available for the next fiscal year. We're trying to get the money for this fiscal year. We do want to move this forward and we're waiting on the land so that they can complete the project.

Then another thing that we've been saying 8% but that's not altogether fair to Pennoni and that it did state if there was some change to the location or some specs that it may be 10%. It depends on what comes from the land. We still need to negotiate that between us as administrative by point that's done. I hope to clear that up by Friday so that I can make a recommendation with the newer board.

Liliana: Okay. Thank you.

Christia: You're welcome.

Philip Veronica: Congratulations to all of you. My main concern is the police department--

Cubillos: State your name and address for the record. I'm sorry.

Phillip: I already did it but anyway.

Cubillos: You have to do it again.

Phillip: I'm Phillip Veronicas, 147 Oakland 97th Street. You stated before the manager, Christia. You stated that you had Mcgrath come in to do an audit on the police department. Correct?

Christia: Yes.
Phillip: Who paid for that?


Phillip: El Portal. Who decided that they should come in?

Christia: I did.

Phillip: You did?

Christia: [unintelligible 02:32:39]

Phillip: Was it a bid or did you just say, "Here's the phone book. I'm going to look at-- Mcgrath, why don't you come in?"

Christia: No. That wasn't how is done. I always-- [crosstalk]

Phillip: Exactly. That's what I'm asking. Was it a bid?

Christia: No. It was--

Phillip: A choice?

Christia: No. I went through different companies that did this work and I presented that to the council. Some of the council members from maybe the finance and I made the decision based on our needs and based on the services that the other-- [crosstalk]

Phillip: From what I understand before-- Okay. Go on.

Christia: I guess I would've bid in terms of they did-- [crosstalk]

Phillip: Okay. There was no bid so it was nothing. It was your personal choice which you did that.

Christia: No. It wasn't. They did provide me a quote for the services that we wanted.

Phillip: One company?

Christia: No.
Phillip: Many companies?

Christia: They were three.

Phillip: Three or four companies. It's okay. [crosstalk] Do we have a record of that?

Christia: Yes. There is.

Phillip: Okay. Fine. Thank you. Could we have it one day when you ride him for it?

Christia: Yes.

Phillip: Okay. The cost of Mcgrath, what is it?

Christia: Well, the cost for what they are doing for us now is just over $4,000 and that's the assessment.

Phillip: $4,000 over what period of time?

Christia: Just for this-

Phillip: The whole thing?

Christia: -percent.

Phillip: Total?

Christia: No. It's maybe one.

Phillip: There's one. What is the total cost?

Christia: No. We don't know what the total cost is-

Phillip: We don't know?

Christia: -because right now, it's just the assessment.

Phillip: Okay.
Christia: There may be something that comes from that. Then we will go back and ask them for more-- [crosstalk]

Phillip: Don't you think half money would have been better to put into the police department?

Christia: No. That's not a good long-term solution. I mean, if we spent $5,000 in [unintelligible 02:34:17] and broke that up between officers, we still need to get our department where it needs to be. We still need to get all-- [crosstalk]

Phillip: Well, you brought in a new police chief. Whose decision was that?

Christia: That was mine as well. I went through different because-- [crosstalk]

Phillip: That was your decision as well. To take away running and then bringing this new police chief and the cost of the new police chief. Is it less than Ronnie or more than Ronnie?

Christia: It's the same as Ronnie was.

Phillip: It's the same as Ronnie was. Okay, you said it was from retirement, I understand. He came out of retirement to come and work. I thought he was doing a course for the wildlife.

Christia: For now I'm staying [unintelligible 02:35:35].

Phillip: That's just my own personal opinion. Nothing personal to any of you on the thing.

Christia: Just as [unintelligible 02:35:22]. Intern Chief Press is retired from the State of Miami Police Force.

Phillip: Well, it's an eight month course to go into Florida Wildlife. You know that, right? Correct?

?Roman: For now I'm staying [unintelligible 02:35:35].
Phillip: It's an eight month course to go there?

?Roman: No. [unintelligible 02:35:42].

Phillip: In [unintelligible 02:35:43].


Phillip: No. You can't be certified for Florida Wildlife if you're a police officer.

?Roman: Sir. We have the main ground commander. All the way from [unintelligible 02:35:54].

Phillip: Okay. I'm not going to argue with you. I know that my son-in-law is in Florida.

?Roman: [inaudible 02:36:00]

Phillip: I'm done. Thank you very much.

Audience: Thank you. Well done.

Cubillos: Anybody else who on Good and Welfare? I'm hearing none. I'm going to close Good and Welfare. At this moment, motion to adjourn.

Roman: [unintelligible 02:36:29]

Cubillos: Motion's been made by Councilperson Roman. Is there a second?

Mathis: Second.

Cubillos: Second by Councilperson Mathis. All in favor signify by saying, "Aye."

Council Members: Aye.

Cubillos: Any "Nays"? Hearing none. The meeting adjourns at 9:42 PM. Thank you.

[applause]

[02:36:44] [END OF AUDIO]