

Selectboard Meeting

January 27, 2026 . 6:24 PM . ID: 233643381

Transcript

00:01 - 00:23

Worthington Town Hall

This conference will now be recorded all right All right.

00:23 - 00:37

Worthington Town Hall

We're gonna talk about the highway department So if we get a quick update and then I think we want to talk about, um, Travis's pay and we have a driveway application.

00:37 - 00:39

Worthington Town Hall

So we'll get to that last.

00:39 - 00:40

Worthington Town Hall

So you're on.

00:41 - 00:44

Worthington Town Hall

Before you start, I think you guys did an awesome job.

00:44 - 00:47

Worthington Town Hall

That was a veritable **** ton of snow.

00:48 - 00:49

Worthington Town Hall

There's no place to put it.

00:49 - 01:24

Worthington Town Hall

And I mean, and I'm sure you're encountering this because I was driving down Patterson road and I, and I was just, I was in the woods as I always do and one of our neighbors got plowed out into the middle of Patterson Road and I'm sure you're dealing with that with everywhere and the drifting and I think you guys did a great job for a small for just period I mean that was a long storm yes so that's that makes it hard because it's if it dumps all at once and you're done you're done but when it's like that Here you come again.

01:24 - 01:25

Worthington Town Hall

Here you come again.

01:26 - 01:28

Worthington Town Hall

So I've been, you know, I also do that.

01:28 - 01:33

Worthington Town Hall

I watch to see what people are doing with their driveways because it's not, it's illegal to do.

01:34 - 01:36

Worthington Town Hall

How bad is it?

01:36 - 02:13

Worthington Town Hall

We have probably a good handful of households in town where they push all the snow into the road or snow blow it all into the road, just into the road, and I had just recently talked with be about it because it is illegal and if an accident was to happen ultimately they're gonna come to me first and say why is this in the road and then last thing you want is it to go back on the homeowner because they're the one pushing into the road which is illegal so it's really not gonna happen.

02:13 - 02:18

Worthington Town Hall

So are we talking about the difference between pushing it into the road versus pushing it across the road?

02:18 - 02:20

Worthington Town Hall

Across the road is still legal.

02:20 - 02:26

Worthington Town Hall

I know it is, but I didn't know people were pushing it into the road and weaving it there.

02:26 - 02:27

Worthington Town Hall

Yes.

02:27 - 02:34

Worthington Town Hall

We have about a handful of residents that push it into the road or snowball it into the road and assume you're just going to clean up.

02:34 - 02:35

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

02:35 - 02:45

Worthington Town Hall

Eventually when I'll drive by checking the roads the next morning and see there are six inches of road across this one stretch of the road and both lanes like we can't have this.

02:45 - 02:47

Worthington Town Hall

You just angle your plow.

02:47 - 02:49

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, I followed off the road.

02:51 - 03:06

Worthington Town Hall

So a do we just try to put something general out to the town which is probably the wisest thing or do we try And I maybe as a first step and then as a second step Start addressing people Having scoby did it sounds like a great idea.

03:06 - 03:09

Worthington Town Hall

Yep Yeah, what did he say?

03:09 - 03:10

Worthington Town Hall

Did you talk to him?

03:10 - 03:16

Worthington Town Hall

He said we can talk to them as I call him about it Okay, frankly, it's just been very busy.

03:16 - 03:32

Worthington Town Hall

Well, yeah, so so why I will go ahead and put something out Is there anything else to let tell people I pull the same thing in the same area Did you did you talk about the sand thing and putting out a notice that two buckets per store per household?

03:33 - 03:51

Worthington Town Hall

I had talked to Amy and I believe Deb about People complaining about not having enough sand out in the sand bin Yes, and the sand bin is it might be worth just a notice of just saying that the sand bin is filled when We're in working during the week, right if it runs out on saturday.

03:51 - 04:10

Worthington Town Hall

We're not on call to just fill the sand bin Yeah, right and And should we ask people to try to limit themselves the two at a time where I was talking to them about is a lot of

other towns around us and it's is that it's not on the town's budget, I believe, to sand everybody's driveways.

04:10 - 04:11

Worthington Town Hall

Well, obviously.

04:11 - 04:12

Worthington Town Hall

Well, that's not even legal.

04:13 - 04:22

Worthington Town Hall

If people were going to be taking that much sand to sand their entire driveway, that kind of defeats the purpose of what it's there for.

04:22 - 04:28

Worthington Town Hall

So if we're going to make signs up and put two five-gallon panels per household per storm.

04:29 - 04:30

Worthington Town Hall

And no pickups?

04:31 - 04:33

Worthington Town Hall

To try to limit it.

04:33 - 04:39

Worthington Town Hall

Oh, yeah They back up pick up trucks and stuff over there and they really shouldn't do that.

04:40 - 04:41

Worthington Town Hall

No I'm sorry.

04:41 - 04:42

Worthington Town Hall

You need that much.

04:43 - 05:03

Worthington Town Hall

You really it is expensive to have your driveway Sanded, you know, but sure part of it, but yes Okay, so I will include that so we'll talk about saying talk about calling across the road anything else and into the road and into One of my neighbors used to do that, but it stopped pretty quickly.

05:03 - 05:04

Worthington Town Hall

So I'd like to go take a picture.

05:04 - 05:06

Worthington Town Hall

Is there a good example of that somewhere?

05:07 - 05:09

Worthington Town Hall

Not now, because you couldn't do that.

05:10 - 05:14

Worthington Town Hall

River Road and Starkweather Road, there's examples of that.

05:15 - 05:16

Worthington Town Hall

So Starkweather is easy for me.

05:16 - 05:19

Worthington Town Hall

Just go up Starkweather after the next...

05:19 - 05:20

Worthington Town Hall

There's a good chance.

05:20 - 05:22

Worthington Town Hall

It all depends on when people clean the driveway.

05:23 - 05:26

Worthington Town Hall

But it's obvious if they plow it across the road, so I know I can catch some of those.

05:26 - 06:11

Worthington Town Hall

Plowing across the road at least 50% of the town does seriously You can drive by Most of driveways in town and there's either a trail going across the road or you'll see it directly across from the drive Or they push it up right that's where I see but Or that's still technically technically legal because it's going across the town road But I'm not looking to argue that because you got to do something with the snow and Half the town does it and has done it for forever it's just the leaving the snow in the road and creating an actual hazard well it's one thing if it's a homeowner too and there's no way to know which one it is but it's another thing if it's somebody's contractor that's doing it they should know better.

06:14 - 06:28

Worthington Town Hall

We always have giant like you're a troll during the storm let's make the most unpopular guy all right so those basically the two issues?

06:29 - 06:31

Worthington Town Hall

That's it for the most part, yes.

06:31 - 06:33

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, so we got that out of the way.

06:33 - 06:34

Worthington Town Hall

So other issues?

06:35 - 06:40

Worthington Town Hall

We're just doing our best to keep everything open and maintain to the best that we can.

06:41 - 06:43

Worthington Town Hall

Trucks are holding up?

06:44 - 06:51

Worthington Town Hall

After the first couple weeks that I started and we had several breakdowns, we got everything back up and going.

06:51 - 06:57

Worthington Town Hall

We had another breakdown yesterday that we'll hopefully have fixed come morning, but.

06:59 - 07:01

Worthington Town Hall

Are we gonna be thinking about a truck this spring?

07:03 - 07:04

Worthington Town Hall

This spring, I do not believe so.

07:05 - 07:09

Worthington Town Hall

We're not planning it next year, I believe is the plan for it.

07:12 - 07:14

Worthington Town Hall

Does it take six months to get a truck?

07:15 - 07:17

Worthington Town Hall

It takes longer than that.

07:17 - 07:20

Worthington Town Hall

So the only would be to get it before winter, yeah.

07:20 - 07:25

Worthington Town Hall

So we ordered it so we waited till spring of next year we could get a truck in time for that coming.

07:26 - 07:29

Worthington Town Hall

I believe that's how it worked for the last truck that got we got.

07:30 - 07:32

Worthington Town Hall

You know, obviously you can't predict these things.

07:32 - 07:33

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

07:33 - 07:35

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, well that's good.

07:36 - 07:43

Worthington Town Hall

Because from my understanding of the way things were done is all the trucks were on a 10 year basis for the most part to get replaced.

07:44 - 07:47

Worthington Town Hall

And next year, one of them is definitely up.

07:48 - 07:48

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

07:52 - 07:54

Worthington Town Hall

So we want to talk about Travis?

07:54 - 08:05

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, you guys wrote a note that I think maybe you want to kind of give the highlights to the select board, the entire select board.

08:05 - 08:06

Worthington Town Hall

Travis was picked.

08:06 - 08:08

Worthington Town Hall

Do you want me to do it or do you?

08:09 - 08:11

Worthington Town Hall

Oh, you can do it.

08:13 - 08:15

Worthington Town Hall

Or you can interpret what So.

08:18 - 08:34

Worthington Town Hall

We hired Travis, who came with all the qualifications, but his hoister license, and we started him at \$30.40 an hour, contingent upon him getting his hoister's license.

08:35 - 08:44

Worthington Town Hall

He is now performing the same jobs that the two other highway employees are that are making 3424.

08:44 - 09:05

Worthington Town Hall

I know that some of this has to do with time and job and everything, but I think it would be the recommendation here is to increase his pay to 3357 to kind of bring everybody up to speed given that Travis has equivalent experience, qualification.

09:05 - 09:06

Worthington Town Hall

And licenses.

09:06 - 09:27

Worthington Town Hall

And so the proposal is to raise that to \$33.57 to address the internal pay inequality and reflective qualifications and experience and support employee morale.

09:30 - 09:38

Worthington Town Hall

I think there might be some comparing of what everybody's doing and how well they're doing it and what their compensation is.

09:39 - 09:49

Worthington Town Hall

So I think that, so I think it would be good for us to have a discussion about that and then maybe I could make a motion, but I'm not ready to make a motion.

09:49 - 09:52

Worthington Town Hall

So his current pay is \$30.40?

09:52 - 09:52

Worthington Town Hall

Correct.

09:52 - 10:03

Worthington Town Hall

So the history of why we requested \$33.57 is because that is what the last two hires previous to Travis were starting pay at.

10:03 - 10:14

Worthington Town Hall

We didn't think that he should be equal to what the current pay is, due to the fact that that was based on a Collins study raise.

10:14 - 10:21

Worthington Town Hall

So we just thought that if you could keep some consistency on that respect.

10:21 - 10:38

Worthington Town Hall

We also offered that moving forward, any time we need to hire for a highway department personnel, that we have a very strict higher start pay that does not necessarily need to reflect what's happening at this moment.

10:39 - 10:43

Worthington Town Hall

It could be the 30-40, or it could be a step lower.

10:44 - 11:02

Worthington Town Hall

But just because I think there was an understanding that there would be some sort of raise with the attaining of the hoistage license that we felt that maybe the starting pay that the last two employees got would be a fair, happy medium.

11:02 - 11:03

Worthington Town Hall

Thank you.

11:04 - 11:07

Worthington Town Hall

So there is a starting rate.

11:07 - 11:09

Worthington Town Hall

That's what the current schedule is all about.

11:09 - 11:16

Worthington Town Hall

So it is a grade C job and grade C starts at a low number and goes to a high number.

11:16 - 11:26

Worthington Town Hall

And the whole idea is that we hire somebody based on their experience basically and what the going rates are at that time, which is what we tried to do, I think.

11:27 - 11:30

Worthington Town Hall

You're asking for a one, two, three, four, five step raise.

11:33 - 11:35

Worthington Town Hall

We've never done that as long as I've been on the software.

11:36 - 11:38

Worthington Town Hall

It's just pretty unusual.

11:38 - 11:45

Worthington Town Hall

The current employee that's been for a longer time got more than that over a year ago.

11:46 - 11:54

Worthington Town Hall

And the people that were hired before Travis, I don't know if they had less or equal to experience.

11:54 - 12:05

Worthington Town Hall

And an argument I have for Travis is, I know he just obtained the license, but as since now he has a license, he's legally able to operate our equipment here.

12:05 - 12:14

Worthington Town Hall

And his experience from operating equipment before here really shows now that he has his license and able to operate.

12:14 - 12:17

Worthington Town Hall

And I feel he's very much worth it.

12:17 - 12:19

Worthington Town Hall

His skill level is there.

12:20 - 12:22

Worthington Town Hall

Compared to what we have.

12:23 - 12:37

Worthington Town Hall

So what happened previously was A, we hired Seth who, you know, for better for worse, came with a lot of experience and didn't work out very well in the end, but he presented well and that's what we negotiated.

12:37 - 12:46

Worthington Town Hall

And at the time, I don't recall who made the motion and the whole discussion, but we did agree to raise Ted's pay to meet his.

12:47 - 12:47

Worthington Town Hall

It was Cork.

12:47 - 12:59

Worthington Town Hall

You're right, Cork said that if you're going to hire this guy this much, I don't think it's fair that my guy who's been working here is only being paid whatever, you know, he was the one who got the big job, is only being paid that.

13:00 - 13:03

Worthington Town Hall

But in retrospect, it was a mistake.

13:04 - 13:07

Worthington Town Hall

I think we are, most of us I know have to agree on that.

13:08 - 13:14

Worthington Town Hall

It's not unusual for people to have different opinions and a job based on.

13:16 - 13:17

Worthington Town Hall

I agree with that.

13:18 - 13:38

Worthington Town Hall

I think that when you get hired it has Quite a bit to do with it, but I do think that I Mean like to have a discussion so I can make a make a motion for discussion about some kind of a pay raise for Travis because I do really believe that it is It is affecting Morale and just I mean.

13:39 - 13:47

Worthington Town Hall

You know for better for worse our pay reflex in some way our feeling of self-worth and you do compare yourself to others.

13:47 - 13:52

Worthington Town Hall

And I can say that this is already budgeted.

13:52 - 14:04

Worthington Town Hall

In fact, you're saving money, because when we did the budget for fiscal year 26, which is what we're currently in, we had two people at the higher rate, and Devin.

14:04 - 14:12

Worthington Town Hall

And now we have a new Devin who is making a less amount because he's of experience.

14:12 - 14:12

Worthington Town Hall

Sure.

14:12 - 14:16

Worthington Town Hall

And now we have the same amount of employees.

14:17 - 14:19

Worthington Town Hall

So technically, your budget isn't perfect.

14:20 - 14:21

Worthington Town Hall

Well, as far as the overall budget.

14:21 - 14:22

Worthington Town Hall

It's not better.

14:23 - 14:28

Worthington Town Hall

So yeah, definitely, as far as what we're paying in salaries, it's less than your budget, obviously.

14:28 - 14:29

Worthington Town Hall

We have one less person.

14:29 - 14:31

Worthington Town Hall

So that's a big jump in the number.

14:31 - 14:33

Worthington Town Hall

But by all means, make a motion.

14:34 - 14:36

Worthington Town Hall

Are you prepared to make a motion?

14:36 - 14:38

Worthington Town Hall

No, I'm getting this.

14:38 - 15:02

Worthington Town Hall

I mean ideally we make a motion that we raise Travis's hourly pay to 3357 prior to the Cola and Collins study adjustment and what is what's Ted.

15:06 - 15:15

Worthington Town Hall

So that would bring him up to, do we call it a class, a C-17, no a C-18, sorry.

15:17 - 15:20

Worthington Town Hall

Yes, and Ted is at 19.

15:21 - 15:22

Worthington Town Hall

I'll second the motion.

15:26 - 15:31

Worthington Town Hall

So I would like to, this is my dealing with.

15:31 - 15:38

Worthington Town Hall

We made a mistake when we hired Seth and bumped Ted up that high.

15:38 - 15:50

Worthington Town Hall

That was an error and we've sort of been trying to, because of all the budget constraints, we've been trying to get things back into line.

15:52 - 15:57

Worthington Town Hall

I think that Travis has been doing a really good job.

15:57 - 16:29

Worthington Town Hall

I personally watched him do part of his on my property and I think that I understand I heard what you're saying what you're saying and I agree that if there's a morale I think there is a morale thing going on if there's there's some stuff going on that I'm not really happy about I'm sure you aren't either but it's stuff that we will have to figure out and work out but I think that I kind of agree with this increase I feel that we should do it.

16:30 - 16:31

Worthington Town Hall

I would like to keep Travis.

16:31 - 16:48

Worthington Town Hall

I would like to not lose him and it is possible that we will then be looking for that somebody else will go and we will be looking for somebody to replace that person and that replacement would not come in at that existing wage.

16:48 - 17:00

Worthington Town Hall

So I sort of feel like the trouble that we have is trying to get things back into balance without being really harsh on any one person and I don't want to be harsh on um Travis at all.

17:01 - 17:06

Worthington Town Hall

So um much as I wish we didn't have to I think we should.

17:08 - 17:16

Worthington Town Hall

So I'm not opposed to considering some sort of increase um I think a five-step increase is just not not right.

17:17 - 17:19

Worthington Town Hall

That's not fair to other employees in town.

17:19 - 17:21

Worthington Town Hall

We've never done that like this at least the 10 years.

17:22 - 17:28

Worthington Town Hall

Since we created the college schedule, 10 years I've been on, so it's just a huge jump.

17:29 - 17:34

Worthington Town Hall

I mean it's not a huge jump dollarized, but it's a huge jump as far as the way we pay people.

17:34 - 17:43

Worthington Town Hall

The one time that there was an increase to a person's salary was mine, and I had a good time mainly when we had a discuss there.

17:44 - 17:47

Worthington Town Hall

Remember, I was asking for \$12 ,000 more a year.

17:47 - 17:53

Worthington Town Hall

Well, we I think we increased your hours at the same time I think you went from 34 to 40 or something Yeah, which is all great.

17:53 - 17:54

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, I always work.

18:05 - 18:08

Worthington Town Hall

And I wouldn't suggest we go to town meeting no, no.

18:10 - 18:22

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, I was gonna say I would just that we never ever yeah that was horrifying Yeah, everybody was really nice, but the people who weren't were just nasty Yeah, really?

18:22 - 18:24

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, and nobody should have this and really it was a fine.

18:24 - 18:35

Worthington Town Hall

This can be joking Well, so i'm i'm um I'm uh I I was going to say i'm ignorant and then that sounds really harsh.

18:35 - 18:40

Worthington Town Hall

So then I was going to say naive now I'm going to say i'm ignorant naive about um, the colin's.

18:43 - 18:48

Worthington Town Hall

Schedule um, so he normally would get just one step increase per year.

18:48 - 18:49

Worthington Town Hall

And a COLA.

18:49 - 18:55

Worthington Town Hall

So it ends up being, it's 2% step and the COLA's been in the, you know, two plus range for.

18:55 - 18:59

Worthington Town Hall

And all the COLA does is just recalibrate the column's schedule again.

18:59 - 19:00

Worthington Town Hall

Well, yeah.

19:00 - 19:02

Worthington Town Hall

It gets added in automatically.

19:02 - 19:03

Worthington Town Hall

When does that happen?

19:04 - 19:07

Worthington Town Hall

With the changing of the new year, week to the new year.

19:07 - 19:09

Worthington Town Hall

So budget season is when we figure it out.

19:09 - 19:12

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, the change actually happens July 1st.

19:12 - 19:15

Worthington Town Hall

And we haven't actually done a COLA, figured out what the COLA is.

19:15 - 19:17

Worthington Town Hall

You did it last year, right?

19:17 - 19:17

Worthington Town Hall

Right.

19:17 - 19:18

Worthington Town Hall

We have it.

19:18 - 19:37

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, but it's Right, it's around two and a half still To bait to five something So that's yeah So if we gave him some kind of a step increase, whatever it is He would still get his step increase in july.

19:37 - 19:44

Worthington Town Hall

Well, that's well, that's part of the question Yeah, well, yeah, that's what you should figure out if we're going to give him an increase now or are we gonna?

19:44 - 19:46

Worthington Town Hall

To give him another increase in the spring.

19:47 - 19:54

Worthington Town Hall

And in truth, he's been getting a C-grade pay since September anyway, even though it's less than he wants now.

19:54 - 19:57

Worthington Town Hall

I mean, he wasn't put in as just a regular highway worker.

19:58 - 20:00

Worthington Town Hall

Right, so he was paid more than his.

20:01 - 20:02

Worthington Town Hall

And he has been.

20:02 - 20:03

Worthington Town Hall

Since he didn't have a license.

20:04 - 20:04

Worthington Town Hall

Right.

20:05 - 20:29

Worthington Town Hall

And I did look back at the minutes and it was clearly discussed that assuming he got his license, Get a step in and call it like everybody else's friends, and there was no discussion of any change in the mid-year Well, I think that's why Christine said if we hire somebody else looks make sure we have this crystal clear Because I think the issue is that there everybody's coming a bit of a different story.

20:30 - 20:30

Worthington Town Hall

Right?

20:30 - 20:35

Worthington Town Hall

Whether to each other at each other or what it was all it's all public, right?

20:35 - 20:44

Worthington Town Hall

We sat here in a public meeting and negotiated this and talked about what the rate would What Ted takes and what the going rate is and I don't understand why you say that.

20:44 - 21:24

Worthington Town Hall

Well, I think well I what I think she needs a little bit more is I think that Neither of you is as familiar with these steps and the grades as obviously we are We work with it and I think that's what it is to the whole Like the whole point of the schedule is to

make the pay system in this town fair and and it was based the the initial Numbers were based on a comparison of other towns in the area and what everybody was getting paid for very it for all jobs all salary didn't and hourly jobs and then to establish a system that would give people a Guaranteed raise in essence every year and.

21:27 - 21:35

Worthington Town Hall

And the trick is always when you hire somebody's so what is the building rate and you know, what can we get you for and we're.

21:37 - 21:43

Worthington Town Hall

The problem is somebody is going to start at a higher rate than the existing employees are making.

21:43 - 21:56

Worthington Town Hall

You know, what happens then, because everything is done in public, it's not like private industry where I could hire you at a completely different rate from everybody else there, and they would never know, unless you told them.

21:57 - 22:10

Worthington Town Hall

Well, the issue which Deb was leading to saying the morale problem, which I came to her about because I've never worked in a place where what everybody made was everybody's business.

22:10 - 22:14

Worthington Town Hall

And I have an employee constantly saying, well, he was hired at that.

22:15 - 22:16

Worthington Town Hall

He was hired at that.

22:16 - 22:17

Worthington Town Hall

I'm getting paid that.

22:17 - 22:18

Worthington Town Hall

You're not doing any less than I am.

22:18 - 22:19

Worthington Town Hall

You should be getting paid that.

22:20 - 22:21

Worthington Town Hall

And constantly poking the bear.

22:24 - 22:26

Worthington Town Hall

Getting him mad saying, I was promised a raise.

22:26 - 22:27

Worthington Town Hall

I need a raise.

22:28 - 22:29

Worthington Town Hall

He wasn't.

22:29 - 22:44

Worthington Town Hall

I think that's kind of, I can understand his not remembering that because he's getting, he's getting poked all the time, you know, and that's through the problem here.

22:45 - 22:50

Worthington Town Hall

We're trying to solve, you know, a problem with the wrong tool to a certain extent here.

22:50 - 22:52

Worthington Town Hall

If the problem is somebody causing trouble.

22:52 - 22:53

Worthington Town Hall

That's the problem.

22:54 - 23:01

Worthington Town Hall

Now, if Travis is underpaid and deserves some sort of raise for getting the license and everything, I'm willing to listen to that.

23:01 - 23:09

Worthington Town Hall

But I'm not going to solve a morale problem or really a discipline problem with a pay raise for somebody else.

23:09 - 23:10

Worthington Town Hall

That doesn't make sense.

23:11 - 23:12

Worthington Town Hall

I agree with you, Charlie.

23:12 - 23:25

Worthington Town Hall

But at the same time, too, I believe Travis is worth it from his experience in working right along the side of him since or since he was hired and since I became superintendent.

23:29 - 23:51

Worthington Town Hall

I hear you I wouldn't be comfortable going up more than two steps and then I would want to have a discussion about what what does that mean for the spring when everybody else gets another gets a step in a cola does he still get another step on top

of that in the spring does the end of cola I mean I think everybody should get a I think there's two.

23:52 - 24:01

Worthington Town Hall

That would be my comfort level, I guess, is two steps and then a discussion about whether it gets another step in there in July.

24:05 - 24:06

Worthington Town Hall

What do you think of that?

24:07 - 24:20

Worthington Town Hall

Is the conversation of another step in July, is that something I can discuss with you guys about performance, if it's deserved come July?

24:21 - 24:25

Worthington Town Hall

Or is that what's redefined tonight, or whatever the decision is made?

24:26 - 24:40

Worthington Town Hall

Steps were supposed to be just theoretically, step 17 would admit that you were in that job for 17 years, or not, not necessarily, but if you started at step one, so step 17, the next year, you would get it automatically in 18.

24:40 - 24:43

Worthington Town Hall

So out of every year, you automatically went up one step.

24:45 - 24:51

Worthington Town Hall

So we have done different things depending on when people got hired in the middle of the year, whether they got a step or not.

24:51 - 24:54

Worthington Town Hall

So you get a step increase regardless of performance?

24:55 - 24:57

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, it's not performance-related.

24:58 - 24:59

Worthington Town Hall

It's retention.

25:00 - 25:06

Worthington Town Hall

And part of the value of the step versus just the COLA, the COLA is basically staying in place.

25:06 - 25:07

Worthington Town Hall

It's a cost of living adjustment.

25:07 - 25:10

Worthington Town Hall

If you're lucky, it really does reflect what it costs you.

25:10 - 25:13

Worthington Town Hall

And so you're not, you're just staying where you are.

25:14 - 25:18

Worthington Town Hall

So the step allows you to get a little bit more on top of that.

25:18 - 25:29

Worthington Town Hall

So taking away either one, the step or the COLA, would be pretty hard because then you're just, it was the issue with Matt over at Chesterfield.

25:29 - 25:32

Worthington Town Hall

He said basically he was level funded every year he got a COLA.

25:32 - 25:33

Worthington Town Hall

That was it.

25:34 - 25:38

Worthington Town Hall

And that's typical in most towns and that's why we're able to retain people for the most part.

25:38 - 25:41

Worthington Town Hall

That's why we're trying to No, it's work.

25:41 - 25:42

Worthington Town Hall

I think it's work.

25:42 - 25:49

Worthington Town Hall

I think so and i'm really admit that one of the flaws in the system If you will is there's no room for merit.

25:49 - 26:03

Worthington Town Hall

We don't consider it For better or for worse So well if he's somebody if you don't like the way somebody's performing the job, there's no contract either city can let him go Yeah, well, that's but that's it everybody That's all we got.

26:03 - 26:24

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, but I mean that works, you know that works So, here's where I'm at with the, let's just take whatever, if we're gonna agree to giving him a step increase, let's take the jump of the step off the table, because I want to talk about if we did that now and said.

26:24 - 26:33

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, but you're not going to get a step increase in July, then he essentially has to wait a whole nother year to get a step increase.

26:33 - 26:48

Worthington Town Hall

So I would like I was getting a step increase to six months early is what we're talking about I understand but I mean I'd have to I'd have to do the math to figure out whether he's actually if that's actually Of course it is so for six months.

26:48 - 26:50

Worthington Town Hall

He'd be getting more than he's getting otherwise.

26:50 - 27:02

Worthington Town Hall

So of course it is Well, I mean, I guess it would be because he but but then he'd essentially be going almost a year and a half without Pay increase How do you deal with cola?

27:03 - 27:09

Worthington Town Hall

Cola isn't a pay increase really, it's a cost of living increase that helps you seem like maybe you're treading water.

27:12 - 27:20

Worthington Town Hall

I guess what I'm seeing is granting him, is talking about granting him a pay increase early, which means increasing six months of his pay.

27:21 - 27:25

Worthington Town Hall

Regardless, yeah, it would mean you'd have to wait a year and a half.

27:25 - 27:26

Worthington Town Hall

And he's getting two steps.

27:26 - 27:30

Worthington Town Hall

But he's getting a step or two steps or whatever it is he agreed to.

27:31 - 27:32

Worthington Town Hall

Six months early.

27:33 - 27:35

Worthington Town Hall

So that's the value here.

27:36 - 27:41

Worthington Town Hall

And so you're looking at the negative side versus the positive side, I think.

27:42 - 27:42

Worthington Town Hall

But, sorry.

27:42 - 27:44

Worthington Town Hall

It's called balance, negative and positive.

27:45 - 27:58

Worthington Town Hall

I'm willing to, let me just say, I am willing to stipulate at this meeting that we can consider whether or not, maybe based on merit, whether he then gets another step increase in July as well.

27:58 - 28:00

Worthington Town Hall

I'm not ruling that out.

28:01 - 28:04

Worthington Town Hall

So maybe that's, I do want to consider.

28:05 - 28:05

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

28:06 - 28:07

Worthington Town Hall

Based on.

28:07 - 28:09

Worthington Town Hall

Is that something we're allowed to design of the department?

28:10 - 28:10

Worthington Town Hall

What do you mean?

28:11 - 28:11

Worthington Town Hall

Performance.

28:13 - 28:15

Worthington Town Hall

Well, like I said, typically we don't do that.

28:15 - 28:15

Worthington Town Hall

No.

28:17 - 28:25

Worthington Town Hall

I mean, to talk about performance reviews, good idea and we don't do a very good job of it in this time.

28:25 - 28:26

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, do it.

28:26 - 28:27

Worthington Town Hall

So.

28:27 - 28:27

Worthington Town Hall

I was just asking.

28:29 - 28:32

Worthington Town Hall

It would be really helpful if we did have a problem to do that.

28:33 - 28:40

Worthington Town Hall

Are you comfortable with two steps in the discussion later on, or a step COLA?

28:43 - 28:46

Worthington Town Hall

So the later on discussion is just whether then in July.

28:46 - 28:50

Worthington Town Hall

Discussion would be whether he gets a step in July or just a COLA.

28:50 - 28:51

Worthington Town Hall

And moving off to step 16.

28:54 - 29:00

Worthington Town Hall

I'd rather give him 16 now and in July move him up to 17 to be honest.

29:00 - 29:02

Worthington Town Hall

Where is he at now?

29:02 - 29:03

Worthington Town Hall

He's at 13.

29:06 - 29:28

Worthington Town Hall

So Charlie is talking about putting him up to step 15 and I would be more comfortable was I just I'm unhappy about the I'm unhappy about the lack of equity the lack of equity and the The past the past.

29:28 - 29:42

Worthington Town Hall

I mean the past was we made a mistake and unfortunately We went along with it because we didn't want to offend Cork But it's like I just well, I don't remember what how many steps you went up or what the difference was a lot.

29:43 - 29:43

Worthington Town Hall

It was a lot.

29:45 - 29:45

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

29:47 - 29:49

Worthington Town Hall

I don't think you can ask Kristen.

29:50 - 29:50

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

29:53 - 29:54

Worthington Town Hall

Well we'll be back in a minute.

30:00 - 30:02

Worthington Town Hall

You know, I'm just worried about setting a really bad precedent.

30:02 - 30:04

Worthington Town Hall

I know, so am I.

30:04 - 30:10

Worthington Town Hall

I think we set a terrible precedent already with them and I, you know, we're trying to make it Right.

30:10 - 30:11

Worthington Town Hall

Well, this is not helping.

30:12 - 30:13

Worthington Town Hall

Sorry.

30:14 - 30:20

Worthington Town Hall

We did negotiate in good faith here a deal with him, and there was no secret here.

30:20 - 30:23

Worthington Town Hall

And there was no talk of maybe a raise.

30:23 - 30:26

Worthington Town Hall

It was a talk of, you know, assuming you get your license, you'll get a raise.

30:26 - 30:30

Worthington Town Hall

And you're actually getting paid more now than you should have been because you

don't have the license.

30:31 - 30:32

Worthington Town Hall

That was the discussion.

30:33 - 30:42

Worthington Town Hall

Now exactly how we landed on this number, I I know he was making a lot more money working for wherever he was working before, right?

30:43 - 30:45

Worthington Town Hall

And I remember discussing that.

30:46 - 30:53

Worthington Town Hall

But, you know, again, for better or for worse, Ted has a number of years of experience with the town.

30:54 - 30:54

Worthington Town Hall

Yes.

30:56 - 31:00

Worthington Town Hall

And then Seth came to us with with its wrong resume.

31:02 - 31:02

Worthington Town Hall

Yes.

31:03 - 31:05

Worthington Town Hall

But, you know, it could be uploaded here too, so.

31:07 - 31:07

[speaker unknown]

If.

31:11 - 31:17

Worthington Town Hall

Are you considering something different than what you originally proposed, or how do you, what would you like to do?

31:33 - 31:41

Worthington Town Hall

As I said, I think I would be more comfortable if it was, if we said right now, move them up to a step 16, which is 3226.

31:41 - 31:48

Worthington Town Hall

And then if we're talking in the spring, We move them up to the um, you know jump in two steps.

31:48 - 31:55

Worthington Town Hall

He would be the 33 57 No You want to jump in three now and two later?

31:56 - 32:07

Worthington Town Hall

Are you saying yeah, I mean I do know we never jump anybody two steps you were saying this frame we could consider a a step No, no, I'm sorry.

32:07 - 32:12

Worthington Town Hall

I think you said two in that one consider a one Okay.

32:12 - 32:12

Worthington Town Hall

Right.

32:12 - 32:16

Worthington Town Hall

I said two now and consider, and consider one in this group.

32:19 - 32:23

Worthington Town Hall

And that splits the difference a little bit.

32:24 - 32:27

Worthington Town Hall

And in this frame, I think he's just done.

32:28 - 32:29

Worthington Town Hall

I mean that's one, two, three, right?

32:32 - 32:33

Worthington Town Hall

What do you?

32:33 - 32:37

Worthington Town Hall

Give them the third now is what you're saying and wait a year and a half for the next.

32:41 - 32:42

Worthington Town Hall

I'm not comfortable with that.

32:42 - 33:01

Worthington Town Hall

It's what's the difference between all of that and we think it I mean it shows that we're working towards it And I do agree that I mean there needs to we need to kind of right-sizes Because we have a very good employee who's making Considerably less than employee who is not very good.

33:01 - 33:03

Worthington Town Hall

I should be blunt about it.

33:03 - 33:09

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, but we don't pay based on that I know But yeah, we're not correcting it this way.

33:09 - 33:19

Worthington Town Hall

That's the wrong way to do it If you want to institute some sort of system for merit-based pay, then we could talk about that.

33:19 - 33:25

Worthington Town Hall

But just ***** with the system in order to do that is not the right thing to do, I might.

33:25 - 33:28

Worthington Town Hall

I think I'm talking about ***** with the system to retain an employee.

33:29 - 33:32

Worthington Town Hall

Is he threatening to leave to be blind care?

33:32 - 33:33

Worthington Town Hall

Is he looking at other jobs?

33:33 - 33:34

Worthington Town Hall

Do we know that?

33:34 - 33:35

Worthington Town Hall

I mean, where is this coming from?

33:35 - 33:36

Worthington Town Hall

He's made comments.

33:39 - 33:40

Worthington Town Hall

All right.

33:40 - 33:40

Worthington Town Hall

Well, that's valid.

33:53 - 34:12

Worthington Town Hall

Sorry, I'm the last guy to be a hard one on salaries, but well I think I feel really strongly that people should be paid what they're worth and should get decent raises in order to get them here, so I do feel that and I understand where you come from.

34:13 - 34:23

Worthington Town Hall

And we've all been there, we've been in a job where you're working your *** off and you've got somebody it's next to you that's making this much or more, or I'm just working nearly as hard, or whatever.

34:23 - 34:26

Worthington Town Hall

And I never worked anywhere that I got a step every year.

34:27 - 34:28

Worthington Town Hall

And Nicole was amazing.

34:28 - 34:30

Worthington Town Hall

But that's me.

34:30 - 34:33

Worthington Town Hall

That's my history, working for nonprofits, I guess.

34:34 - 34:38

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, I always got an increase and usually was a handsome one.

34:38 - 34:39

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, well, I never did.

34:40 - 34:43

Worthington Town Hall

And I stopped working for other people because I couldn't stand it.

34:44 - 34:45

Worthington Town Hall

And I never gave myself an increase.

34:45 - 34:50

Worthington Town Hall

And the only way I got increases was to get a new job to, you know, get an increase in responsibilities.

34:51 - 34:53

Worthington Town Hall

What we're getting off track.

34:54 - 34:57

Worthington Town Hall

So what were you saying just now?

34:57 - 35:07

Worthington Town Hall

I was saying because in this 16 call it good and that's what's the difference and then hopefully we'll have a chance to sort of get back on track in a little bit.

35:12 - 35:15

Worthington Town Hall

So do you have a copy of the steps it.

35:17 - 35:19

Worthington Town Hall

What are you looking for?

35:19 - 35:23

Worthington Town Hall

I'm just trying to know, do you have a feeling what you think?

35:23 - 35:26

Worthington Town Hall

So step 16 is 32.26 an hour.

35:26 - 35:27

Worthington Town Hall

What's 15?

35:28 - 35:30

Worthington Town Hall

15 is 31.63.

35:31 - 35:34

Worthington Town Hall

There never are huge differences, you know?

35:35 - 35:36

Worthington Town Hall

So, but...

35:38 - 35:39

Worthington Town Hall

So there's a couple of comments.

35:40 - 35:44

Worthington Town Hall

First is about language, so I apologize.

35:45 - 35:49

Worthington Town Hall

I'll try to keep it under control here and make a fair point there.

35:53 - 36:14

Worthington Town Hall

And then I think there's, again, a misunderstanding of what the Collins schedule is, that we hired a firm that's based in UMass to look at salary levels in other towns of similar size for similar jobs, and we set a schedule of salaries or what we pay for certain skilled jobs.

36:15 - 36:19

Worthington Town Hall

And and then established a 2% step every year guaranteed.

36:20 - 36:23

Worthington Town Hall

And then every year we decide what the COA is.

36:23 - 36:30

Worthington Town Hall

All that happens starting right around now, gets voted on at town meeting as part of the budget.

36:33 - 36:35

Worthington Town Hall

And then increases happen in July.

36:35 - 36:36

Worthington Town Hall

That's normally the way it works.

36:37 - 36:44

Worthington Town Hall

So we very rarely ever talk about raising someone's salary mid-year, which is what

this discussion is about.

36:44 - 36:50

Worthington Town Hall

But hopefully that clears up some of the questions about what the COAs are and what the steps are.

36:51 - 36:53

Worthington Town Hall

The COA is literally the cost of living.

36:53 - 37:04

Worthington Town Hall

We typically base it on the federal cost of living and everybody gets that, including typically even elected people who get stipends.

37:05 - 37:07

Worthington Town Hall

They don't, elected people don't get steps.

37:07 - 37:12

Worthington Town Hall

Steps are only people who are paid by the hour and by the salary or basically town employees.

37:13 - 37:20

Worthington Town Hall

So the steps are guaranteed increase and the COA is whatever the cost of an increase is.

37:22 - 37:25

Worthington Town Hall

So we did do a salary survey, that was one of the questions.

37:26 - 37:32

Worthington Town Hall

So we don't, when we're talking about doing a new one, they're essentially updating

where we are relative to our neighbors.

37:33 - 37:37

Worthington Town Hall

So that is something that's in the works, but I'm not going to do that tonight.

37:38 - 37:42

Worthington Town Hall

I think hopefully that answers the people's questions in the chat.

37:42 - 37:45

Worthington Town Hall

Mike, did you want to say something?

37:46 - 38:03

Mike Dondiego

Charlie, I don't know if I missed it or not, but so are there set percentage increases between different steps within a given job classification, like it's 2% from 13 to 14, another 2% from 14 to 15, another 2% from 15 to 16?

38:03 - 38:05

Mike Dondiego

Is it concrete like that?

38:06 - 38:07

Worthington Town Hall

Yes, absolutely.

38:07 - 38:08

Worthington Town Hall

That's what it is.

38:08 - 38:28

Worthington Town Hall

So we have five levels, A, B, C, D, E, and everybody who's paid in this, who's an employee is in one of those classifications, you know, people who are at the top, like Rial, for instance, who's a supervisor, is a grade E, and I don't even know if we have

any grade As at the moment, but regardless.

38:29 - 38:31

Worthington Town Hall

Those are job classifications.

38:31 - 38:37

Worthington Town Hall

And then within that there are the steps and when we hire somebody, we try to put them in the appropriate spot based on experience.

38:39 - 38:45

Worthington Town Hall

And from there on, it's a 2% raise every year guaranteed and a COLA on top of that.

38:45 - 38:48

Worthington Town Hall

Assuming the cost of living has increased, which it always seems to.

38:49 - 38:50

Worthington Town Hall

Does that answer your question?

38:52 - 38:54

Mike Dondiego

Yes, I think so, thank you.

38:54 - 38:55

Mike Dondiego

Okay.

38:56 - 38:58

Worthington Town Hall

So where were we?

38:58 - 39:03

Worthington Town Hall

Were you going to make an ultimate motion or are you sticking with what you have or?

39:03 - 39:04

Worthington Town Hall

I am making a motion.

39:04 - 39:05

Worthington Town Hall

Ok.

39:05 - 39:24

Worthington Town Hall

I move that we increase Travis's rate of pay from step 13 to step 16 with no discussion for COLA increase this spring.

39:25 - 39:27

Worthington Town Hall

Step COLA.

39:27 - 39:27

Worthington Town Hall

Cola.

39:27 - 39:31

Worthington Town Hall

Right, COLA happens, not no step increase in July.

39:32 - 39:38

Worthington Town Hall

So his next increase would be July the 27th.

39:41 - 39:42

Worthington Town Hall

Is there a second?

39:43 - 39:44

Worthington Town Hall

I will second it.

39:44 - 39:46

Worthington Town Hall

I would say you withdrew the previous motion.

39:46 - 39:48

Worthington Town Hall

I obviously did.

39:53 - 39:56

Worthington Town Hall

Any other discussion on this?

39:58 - 40:00

Worthington Town Hall

So is your second in your comfortable with this?

40:02 - 40:04

Worthington Town Hall

I think I am.

40:04 - 40:06

Worthington Town Hall

Do you think we'll keep him I?

40:07 - 40:08

Worthington Town Hall

Hope to okay.

40:08 - 40:22

Worthington Town Hall

I really hope to okay, and I think the decision of no step in the spring is fair going to the 16 because we also had this discussion a year ago and what I was going to Be getting paid because why?

40:23 - 40:33

Worthington Town Hall

What you're hired at was in between steps and I only got the partial increase come spring, so it's not He's getting a little stuff Right.

40:34 - 40:38

Worthington Town Hall

We've done that before, depending on where it was in the year.

40:39 - 40:39

Worthington Town Hall

Ok.

40:41 - 40:42

Worthington Town Hall

Ok.

40:42 - 40:43

Worthington Town Hall

So no other discussion.

40:45 - 40:47

Worthington Town Hall

Because we can both sounds hands up.

40:48 - 40:49

Worthington Town Hall

Yes, Kelly, go ahead.

40:51 - 40:54

Kelly Wolf

Hi, so I just want to clarify, so come.

40:56 - 41:03

Kelly Wolf

July, when the the other employee will get a step in a cola and will be making even

more money.

41:05 - 41:09

Kelly Wolf

Because Travis won't be eligible for another step in a COLA at that point.

41:11 - 41:12

Worthington Town Hall

They'll have a COLA.

41:12 - 41:14

Worthington Town Hall

It'll be eligible for a COLA is what we're proposing.

41:14 - 41:15

Worthington Town Hall

Right.

41:15 - 41:16

Worthington Town Hall

Everyone, he would still get a COLA.

41:16 - 41:17

Worthington Town Hall

He would just not get the step.

41:18 - 41:19

Worthington Town Hall

Right.

41:20 - 41:22

Kelly Wolf

Yeah, it just doesn't seem fair to me.

41:22 - 41:23

Kelly Wolf

That's just my opinion.

41:27 - 41:28

[speaker unknown]

Okay.

41:28 - 41:28

[speaker unknown]

Yeah.

41:29 - 41:29

[speaker unknown]

Okay.

41:29 - 41:34

Worthington Town Hall

I mean, I just, I think there'll be other employees in town who will look at this and say, this is not fair to me, so.

41:35 - 41:36

Worthington Town Hall

Possibly, yeah.

41:36 - 41:43

Worthington Town Hall

That's the danger here, they're straying too far from the, but I mean, you have to keep people, too, so I get that.

41:47 - 41:48

Worthington Town Hall

Anything else?

41:55 - 42:00

Worthington Town Hall

And the other comment that Kelly made in the chat was that we really should be considering merit.

42:01 - 42:01

Worthington Town Hall

Opp.

42:02 - 42:02

Worthington Town Hall

I would agree.

42:03 - 42:05

Worthington Town Hall

Oh, somehow we're only seeing Kelly.

42:05 - 42:05

Worthington Town Hall

Oh, okay.

42:06 - 42:06

Worthington Town Hall

I think.

42:08 - 42:16

Worthington Town Hall

I would agree that we should be considering merit and I'm not sure how you do that when you're faced with Are we on you?

42:16 - 42:27

Worthington Town Hall

No, I don't think so When you're faced with the budget issues that we are faced with but I do like again.

42:27 - 42:32

Worthington Town Hall

I do agree that That we should I know it should have performance-based increases.

42:32 - 42:38

Worthington Town Hall

I mean that just is This is what all municipal workers say.

42:38 - 42:41

Worthington Town Hall

They say we have good benefits.

42:41 - 42:41

Worthington Town Hall

Right.

42:42 - 42:43

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, I think it's a trade-off.

42:45 - 42:51

Worthington Town Hall

And the performance-based pay is really difficult in a small environment like this.

42:51 - 42:51

Worthington Town Hall

So good.

42:52 - 42:52

Worthington Town Hall

That's a good one.

42:52 - 42:54

Worthington Town Hall

This is a reminding we try to feed ourselves.

42:55 - 42:57

Worthington Town Hall

Mike, did you want to say something else?

42:57 - 43:03

Mike Dondiego

Yeah, just so I just want to check the fact so if a three-step increase is a six percent

increase.

43:06 - 43:08

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, I believe so.

43:11 - 43:20

Worthington Town Hall

Is it I don't remember what the difference yeah, isn't it to step So he left in 15 to what?

43:23 - 43:24

Worthington Town Hall

1516 that would be six.

43:27 - 43:29

Mike Dondiego

Well, I'm not asking about compounding.

43:29 - 43:30

Mike Dondiego

I'm just right.

43:30 - 43:32

Mike Dondiego

It's 2% per step.

43:32 - 43:32

Mike Dondiego

So.

43:32 - 43:34

Worthington Town Hall

It's Yes, okay.

43:34 - 43:38

Worthington Town Hall

Thank you.

43:48 - 43:48

[speaker unknown]

Yeah.

43:55 - 43:58

Worthington Town Hall

So are we ready to vote?

44:03 - 44:07

Worthington Town Hall

Um i'm gonna abstain okay so i'll let it go through.

44:09 - 44:31

Worthington Town Hall

Okay so yeah just because i can't make up my mind so i do want to say that um i was present for that town hall where your salary was discussed and i thought that was the most mortifying humiliating thing i ever watched anybody go through and i would never ever ever want that to happen again.

44:31 - 44:32

Worthington Town Hall

I know it was.

44:32 - 44:33

Worthington Town Hall

And I wanted to apologize.

44:33 - 44:35

Worthington Town Hall

Well, thank you, that's very nice.

44:35 - 44:45

Worthington Town Hall

You know, it was one of those things that lucky for me that Lincoln and Hillary were there with their new baby and I just held the baby on my lap and played with her the

whole time so I didn't have to listen.

44:45 - 44:48

Worthington Town Hall

Well, I think that's pretty much, that was before the Collins study.

44:48 - 44:54

Worthington Town Hall

And as I said, your job, literally, we changed the job to a full-time job from being a part-time job.

44:54 - 44:55

Worthington Town Hall

So it was a big.

44:55 - 44:59

Worthington Town Hall

No, yeah, it was a big deal, but actually I had been working with three hours.

45:00 - 45:15

Worthington Town Hall

I went from, originally I was 15 hours and then to 32 and then to 40, but that I was still, when I did a survey myself of all the surrounding towns or towns with the same budget and the same amount of people close.

45:16 - 45:20

Worthington Town Hall

And I didn't even use my salary in the survey that I did.

45:20 - 45:23

Worthington Town Hall

I was such an outlier, so low, you know?

45:23 - 45:25

Worthington Town Hall

So, I mean, really that's how bad it was.

45:25 - 45:26

Worthington Town Hall

Before and then we didn't.

45:27 - 45:31

Worthington Town Hall

We can blame a former select member who insisted on it that way.

45:31 - 45:33

Worthington Town Hall

Who shall remain unnamed.

45:33 - 45:33

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

45:35 - 45:37

Worthington Town Hall

Alright, can we go to a driveway application?

45:38 - 45:40

Worthington Town Hall

Which apparently was lost in the shuffle.

45:40 - 45:40

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

45:40 - 45:41

Worthington Town Hall

Oh, yes.

45:41 - 45:46

Worthington Town Hall

Um hopefully Travis will be happy with the decision.

45:46 - 45:48

Worthington Town Hall

I do, I do consider.

45:48 - 45:55

Worthington Town Hall

I'm sort of up to my, which is why I decided to I think you guys did that all very well together I think.

45:56 - 46:04

Worthington Town Hall

So driveway application is for Stark Weathers, speaking of which, 30407 Stark Weathers?

46:04 - 46:07

Worthington Town Hall

So is this for a new construction or?

46:07 - 46:08

Worthington Town Hall

Yes.

46:10 - 46:11

Worthington Town Hall

Have they built it already?

46:11 - 46:11

Worthington Town Hall

No.

46:13 - 46:13

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

46:13 - 46:15

Worthington Town Hall

Peggy said something about this having been lost.

46:15 - 46:20

Worthington Town Hall

It's our, yeah, they signed off on it.

46:20 - 46:23

Worthington Town Hall

I mean, Cork signed off on it, or he didn't sign it.

46:23 - 46:29

Worthington Town Hall

You signed it, but Cork told the guy to go ahead with it and it never came before the board.

46:31 - 46:36

Worthington Town Hall

And so hence, he included the same check, but he changed the date on it two years ago.

46:37 - 46:38

Worthington Town Hall

So is it up beyond West Street?

46:39 - 46:40

Worthington Town Hall

Just above West Street.

46:44 - 46:50

Worthington Town Hall

So that's up where they wanted to split the property, isn't it?

46:50 - 46:53

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, that's not the same property though, is it?

46:53 - 46:54

Worthington Town Hall

I think it is.

46:54 - 46:55

Worthington Town Hall

Oh, okay.

46:55 - 47:11

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, because it's Mark and Carol, and Mark and Carol, yeah, the two, three hundred- Yeah, it is the Feinstins, yeah, so they're not splitting the property, but they're just building a second ADU or something.

47:12 - 47:14

Worthington Town Hall

I assume the second access point.

47:14 - 47:15

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

47:15 - 47:16

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

47:16 - 47:17

Worthington Town Hall

Anyway, you're fine with it.

47:17 - 47:18

Worthington Town Hall

Yep.

47:18 - 47:31

Worthington Town Hall

I met Alex there and spoke with him and then I also reencouraged memory what he remembered of the whole situation and talked it over with him and I agree with

what's done in there.

47:31 - 47:32

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

47:32 - 47:34

Worthington Town Hall

And a culvert wasn't necessary, right?

47:35 - 47:36

Worthington Town Hall

So we've got a hand up.

47:37 - 47:43

Worthington Town Hall

I don't know if it was from the previous discussion or if it's has to do with this, but go ahead.

47:44 - 47:48

Worthington Town Hall

Adriana or whatever Shaw is online there.

47:50 - 47:55

Adriana Shaw

Hey, yeah, I was just wondering, this is a question regarding last select board meeting.

47:55 - 47:59

Adriana Shaw

If you had heard back from the attorney general yet about the possible conflict of interest.

48:02 - 48:05

Worthington Town Hall

I have not done anything about that yet.

48:05 - 48:12

Worthington Town Hall

They were so far away from me having to be involved or make a decision here, but no, I haven't, because I haven't asked yet.

48:12 - 48:15

Worthington Town Hall

And it's actually not the attorney general, it's the ethics commission.

48:16 - 48:18

Worthington Town Hall

I think that's what you're referring to, right?

48:18 - 48:19

Worthington Town Hall

As to whether I have a conflict?

48:20 - 48:21

Worthington Town Hall

Yes, well.

48:21 - 48:43

Adriana Shaw

I mean, it's clear you have an apparent conflict of interest, but I'm wondering if you found out there's an actual conflict of interest and the reason I ask now is because at the last planning board meeting, it was made clear that the 190 project is essentially at a standstill until you sign off on David, the technical advisor.

48:44 - 48:48

Adriana Shaw

So I would ask that you recuse yourself before any kind.

48:48 - 48:56

Adriana Shaw

Of signing off on, or any further procedural work on this project.

48:58 - 49:02

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, I will look into it this week, okay?

49:03 - 49:08

Adriana Shaw

Okay, because it's, you know, it's.

49:08 - 49:16

Worthington Town Hall

I guess I didn't see how signing off on a contractor was a conflict either way.

49:19 - 49:26

Adriana Shaw

There's serious concerns about your impartiality, so you should be refused from the project.

49:27 - 49:32

Worthington Town Hall

So just to be clear here, I have no financial interest in anything that Blue Wave does.

49:33 - 49:37

Worthington Town Hall

They're my bank and I pay them off on a loan.

49:37 - 49:52

Worthington Town Hall

So I have no financial interest in this project whether it happens or it doesn't happen or somebody makes money or somebody doesn't make money. None of this affects me. So I'm not sure how I would have a conflict of interest because I have no financial interest. I will talk to the okay.

49:52 - 49:59

Adriana Shaw

Well you have an apparent conflict of interest because if a reasonable person hears that your ground.

49:59 - 50:00

Worthington Town Hall

Mount solar system.

50:00 - 50:10

Adriana Shaw

Is financed by the now applicant from the town that raises eyebrows and that's an apparent conflict of interest and the public trust.

50:10 - 50:18

Adriana Shaw

Is uh ruined so it doesn't matter if you have an actual public uh actual conflict of interest you have an apparent conflict of interest.

50:20 - 50:32

Worthington Town Hall

Okay i hear you and i will talk to the ethics commission sorry i didn't really look at it as as as that urgent but i'm happy i'm happy to do it, I'll call him probably tomorrow, okay?

50:33 - 50:34

Adriana Shaw

Thank you.

50:34 - 50:40

Worthington Town Hall

And Emily, how are we like not dealing with what's in there, if it's right?

50:41 - 50:43

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, so a good question.

50:43 - 50:46

Worthington Town Hall

So we'll try to stick to the agenda here.

50:46 - 50:50

Worthington Town Hall

Emily, do you have something that's germane to the agenda or is it something else?

50:51 - 50:52

Emily L

It's something additional.

50:53 - 50:56

Worthington Town Hall

All right, does it have anything to do with what's on the agenda tonight?

51:03 - 51:08

Worthington Town Hall

All right, so when we get to the end of the agenda, I will take comments.

51:09 - 51:13

Worthington Town Hall

If there's, you're asking for us to discuss something, we really can't do that without putting it on the agenda.

51:16 - 51:16

[speaker unknown]

Okay.

51:17 - 51:17

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

51:17 - 51:19

Worthington Town Hall

We can try to answer a question like I just did.

51:20 - 51:20

Worthington Town Hall

And.

51:21 - 51:23

Worthington Town Hall

But we typically leave that to the end of the meeting.

51:24 - 51:25

Worthington Town Hall

Start with the road.

51:25 - 51:26

Worthington Town Hall

So start with the road.

51:26 - 51:30

Worthington Town Hall

Anybody have discussion on that or a question on that?

51:32 - 51:34

Worthington Town Hall

So, do we have any more motion?

51:35 - 51:36

Mike Dondiego

Charlie, I'm sorry.

51:37 - 51:38

Worthington Town Hall

Go ahead.

51:39 - 51:39

Worthington Town Hall

Sorry.

51:39 - 51:40

Mike Dondiego

I couldn't get my hand up.

51:41 - 51:48

Mike Dondiego

I'm just curious when these driveway permits are looked at, are they looked at to make sure there's access for emergency response vehicles?

51:51 - 51:53

Worthington Town Hall

I'll let Rial address what he looks at.

51:53 - 51:58

Worthington Town Hall

Typically, it's something that the highway superintendent signs off on.

51:59 - 51:59

Worthington Town Hall

Yes.

52:01 - 52:03

Worthington Town Hall

It's a complete access driveway.

52:04 - 52:08

Worthington Town Hall

There's no reason why emergency vehicles can't get in this access.

52:10 - 52:11

Worthington Town Hall

Including.

52:11 - 52:14

Mike Dondiego

Like our tanker truck or the ladder truck, if.

52:14 - 52:15

Worthington Town Hall

You will.

52:16 - 52:18

Worthington Town Hall

The tanker truck for sure.

52:18 - 52:33

Worthington Town Hall

The ladder truck it would just be hesitant on any of our driveways on our back dirt roads and that ladder truck made it into my house yeah but i don't think we can require somebody's driveway to be widely no.

52:33 - 52:38

Mike Dondiego

I understand that uh because the ladder truck's kind of a unique situation it's it's not built.

52:38 - 52:39

Worthington Town Hall

For.

52:39 - 52:45

Mike Dondiego

It's not built for back roads it's not built for towns like Worthington I mean, it came off a naval.

52:45 - 52:47

Worthington Town Hall

Base, totally different.

52:47 - 52:47

Mike Dondiego

Animal.

52:48 - 52:50

Mike Dondiego

Just kind of curious that we're, all right, so we're looking.

52:50 - 52:52

Mike Dondiego

For general.

52:52 - 52:53

Worthington Town Hall
Emergency vehicle.

52:53 - 52:53

Mike Dondiego
Access.

52:55 - 52:55

Worthington Town Hall
All right, that.

52:55 - 52:57

Mike Dondiego
Answers my question, thank you.

52:58 - 53:02

Worthington Town Hall
I mean, I assume there are required widths for driveway?

53:03 - 53:05

Worthington Town Hall
I don't know that specifically.

53:06 - 53:18

Worthington Town Hall
All I know is for the most part is I have to make sure that the driveway isn't going to impede on the road and erosion and the drainage that needs to happen.

53:21 - 53:27

Worthington Town Hall
So I wonder if we should be considering whether it's wide enough to accommodate emergency vehicles.

53:27 - 53:31

Worthington Town Hall
It is wide enough for the average emergency vehicle, yes.

53:34 - 53:42

Worthington Town Hall

So I will move that we accept the driveway permit application from Alex Feinstein for Starkweather Road.

53:43 - 53:43

Worthington Town Hall

Second.

53:45 - 53:46

Worthington Town Hall

Any other discussion?

53:48 - 53:48

Worthington Town Hall

All in favor?

53:49 - 53:49

Worthington Town Hall

Aye.

53:50 - 53:50

Worthington Town Hall

Aye.

53:50 - 53:50

Worthington Town Hall

Aye.

53:52 - 53:53

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, I'm sorry.

53:57 - 54:00

Worthington Town Hall

Have you had enough fun for tonight, like you?

54:02 - 54:03

Worthington Town Hall

Time to go catch our fun horse.

54:05 - 54:07

Worthington Town Hall

Thanks for the good job that you guys did.

54:07 - 54:08

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, thank you very much.

54:08 - 54:08

Worthington Town Hall

Thank you.

54:09 - 54:09

Worthington Town Hall

Yes.

54:09 - 54:11

Worthington Town Hall

We appreciate the thank yous as well.

54:11 - 54:12

Worthington Town Hall

Oh, yeah.

54:12 - 54:14

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, and Christine, thanks for posting on Facebook.

54:15 - 54:18

Worthington Town Hall

Oh, yeah No, seriously, that was actually good.

54:18 - 54:19

Worthington Town Hall

What did you do?

54:20 - 54:25

Worthington Town Hall

It's good to remind us we need to thank you all publicly and I mean, yeah.

54:28 - 54:30

Worthington Town Hall

Yes, you did.

54:34 - 54:38

Worthington Town Hall

All right, so let's let's move on Thank you.

54:39 - 54:39

Worthington Town Hall

Good night.

54:39 - 54:41

Worthington Town Hall

School committee negotiations.

54:42 - 54:46

Worthington Town Hall

Alison or Gretchen, do you want to just tell us what happened?

54:49 - 54:50

Alison Todd

Hi, sure.

54:51 - 54:51

Worthington Town Hall

So.

54:51 - 55:11

Alison Todd

Because it's going to take some time for, and I think we've shared this before, AMSHA regional needs to sort out their audits from FY23, 24, 25, before they can move on to FY26 to have a clear sense of their financial situation.

55:12 - 55:37

Alison Todd

So until they sort that out, they're not ready, and we shouldn't be either, really, to commit to a tuition agreement that ties our tuition rate to their annual per pupil because we don't have the data available at DESI double-checked and cross-checked to make sure it's accurate.

55:38 - 55:41

Alison Todd

So what we did for.

55:41 - 55:41

Worthington Town Hall

That.

55:41 - 55:57

Alison Todd

Process is kind of table that we're going to continue working on it this spring with the goal of creating a new agreement that will start in July of FY27.

55:58 - 56:09

Alison Todd

And for the fiscal year FY26 into 27, so that would be, I'm sorry, so this is FY27 coming up.

56:09 - 56:10

Worthington Town Hall

So yeah.

56:10 - 56:12

Alison Todd

We're working on FY28.

56:13 - 56:18

Alison Todd

For FY27, we just agreed to exactly the same language as our current.

56:18 - 56:27

Alison Todd

Agreement, extending the language by one year, but the new tuition rate will be 15 ,000 per pupil.

56:28 - 56:31

Alison Todd

Their current per pupil, they estimated to.

56:31 - 56:35

Alison Todd

Be 23 ,359.

56:36 - 56:42

Alison Todd

So we're still quite a ways away from what their towns are paying.

56:43 - 56:51

Alison Todd

Even if you subtract out our transportation costs, our special ed costs, our own superintendent costs.

56:51 - 57:06

Alison Todd

So, we're moving toward their request, which is we're on more equitable footing, but it is a significant increase from our current per pupil, which is \$11 ,000, I think.

57:06 - 57:10

Alison Todd

\$6 ,000, so.

57:10 - 57:13

Alison Todd

This is sort of an interim step.

57:13 - 57:30

Alison Todd

Hopefully, it will also soften the impact of an increase for the tax base to do this interim step and will give us some time to really kind of do all the troubleshooting we need to come up with an agreement.

57:31 - 57:48

Alison Todd

They had some, definitely some openness to continuing to talk about an agreement that would wrap our special education costs into our tuition, but they were wary and so we'll keep talking.

57:52 - 57:58

Worthington Town Hall

So we'll be a similar schedule going into next year as you imagine.

57:59 - 58:00

Alison Todd

What do you mean schedule?

58:01 - 58:06

Worthington Town Hall

Well, I mean, you're going to start talking about the agreement for next year.

58:06 - 58:11

Worthington Town Hall

Would you assume that going into the late fall and winter?

58:11 - 58:13

Alison Todd

No, we're continuing talks.

58:13 - 58:20

Alison Todd

They asked to finish their current budget season, which will be in March, and we're gonna meet again in April.

58:21 - 58:28

Alison Todd

So we're really trying to get this settled as quickly as we can, but wasn't gonna work.

58:28 - 58:34

Alison Todd

We asked that we have something settled by February 1st, and it just wasn't gonna be.

58:34 - 58:37

Worthington Town Hall

Practical to try to get that.

58:37 - 58:39

Alison Todd

Longer term agreement settled by February.

58:39 - 58:40

Worthington Town Hall

1st.

58:41 - 58:46

Worthington Town Hall

I guess what I'm at a shorter way to ask was when do you think you might reach the second agreement?

58:47 - 58:59

Alison Todd

We are hoping to get it settled by December at the latest, but our goal was to have a draft done by the end of this school year.

59:00 - 59:02

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, thanks.

59:03 - 59:05

Worthington Town Hall

I think that sounds fine.

59:06 - 59:07

Worthington Town Hall

Thank you.

59:07 - 59:07

Worthington Town Hall

Right.

59:08 - 59:08

Worthington Town Hall

Thanks.

59:08 - 59:09

Worthington Town Hall

Keep up the good work.

59:09 - 59:09

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

59:10 - 59:10

Alison Todd

Thanks.

59:11 - 59:11

Alison Todd

We'll.

59:11 - 59:12

Worthington Town Hall

Try.

59:17 - 59:20

Worthington Town Hall

Route 143 contingency funds expenditure.

59:20 - 59:21

Worthington Town Hall

That's this right here.

59:22 - 59:23

Worthington Town Hall

The newest amount.

59:24 - 59:26

Worthington Town Hall

So then I looked back to see.

59:26 - 59:42

Worthington Town Hall

So the amount that is set aside for contingency is a million, it's a million six hundred and something thousand.

59:43 - 59:55

Worthington Town Hall

And so these are so far with this contingency allotment we've spent \$620 ,300 and so that leaves us still with a balance of \$1 ,072 ,000.

59:58 - 01:00:10

Worthington Town Hall

We never did really settle this whole issue with the um whether we're going to have enough money for the um what do they call the flaggers.

01:00:12 - 01:00:13

Worthington Town Hall

For the who?

01:00:13 - 01:00:15

Worthington Town Hall

For the police, the fighters, what are they called?

01:00:15 - 01:00:15

Worthington Town Hall

For the detail.

01:00:15 - 01:00:16

Worthington Town Hall

Detail, thank you.

01:00:16 - 01:00:17

Worthington Town Hall

That's the work.

01:00:18 - 01:00:19

Worthington Town Hall

So we really need to...

01:00:19 - 01:00:22

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, we talked about that a real long time ago.

01:00:22 - 01:00:23

Worthington Town Hall

But we never settled it.

01:00:24 - 01:00:25

Worthington Town Hall

Maybe you were hoping it would go away.

01:00:25 - 01:00:26

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, I'm sure we were.

01:00:27 - 01:00:27

Worthington Town Hall

It probably won't.

01:00:29 - 01:00:32

Worthington Town Hall

So they're still here working at the fire station.

01:00:32 - 01:00:34

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, but nobody's doing any road work.

01:00:34 - 01:00:34

Worthington Town Hall

Obviously.

01:00:35 - 01:00:36

Worthington Town Hall

But I didn't realize they'd be here all the time.

01:00:37 - 01:00:37

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

01:00:38 - 01:00:42

Worthington Town Hall

No, the I think they all want to get away from home.

01:00:46 - 01:01:20

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, because I think they're so they have like the you know the two sets of poles along 143 heading west and now they have the Stuff on the top of all of them for the wires and I think they're moving They're moving the wires from one side of the road to the other maybe they already moved it I think some of them they did once they put all this the hardware on the top It was hard to remember which one of these you always had the wires which didn't but I guess Once they're done moving them all over then I guess they're gonna get rid of the other ones.

01:01:21 - 01:01:23

Worthington Town Hall

I Don't know they do they have.

01:01:26 - 01:01:38

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, so they have to move all those poles but And then I thought somewhere along the line, there's also some polls on this part of 143 that I think they were getting rid of as well.

01:01:39 - 01:01:43

Worthington Town Hall

And I was hoping at some point, you know, all the extra polls, they have the little poll and the big poll.

01:01:44 - 01:01:51

Worthington Town Hall

They're supposed to get rid of those little polls to some extent because the reason they they replaced them with bigger polls, but they never got rid of them.

01:01:52 - 01:01:55

Worthington Town Hall

It's like, how many polls can you put in the same place?

01:01:55 - 01:02:11

Worthington Town Hall

So that's the subject of one of the, I forget what it's called, there's some legislation, a big group of legislation, we talked about it before, the double polls was part of that, trying to force them to deal with that, but I don't think that's actually passed into law yet.

01:02:11 - 01:02:12

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, maybe not.

01:02:13 - 01:02:20

Worthington Town Hall

It's part of the MMA's overall package, because in some cities it's a huge problem, it's not quite the issue here.

01:02:21 - 01:02:21

Worthington Town Hall

No.

01:02:21 - 01:02:22

Worthington Town Hall

But we do have it.

01:02:22 - 01:02:23

Worthington Town Hall

It is kind of weird.

01:02:23 - 01:02:49

Worthington Town Hall

It's like that's a lot because it's a lot because it's work to take them out yes they can get away with not doing it they don't do it okay it's the new coal support coal so why don't i entertain a motion to um from this that we have a choice right um i move that we approve the uh contingency funds a lot.

01:02:49 - 01:02:50

Worthington Town Hall

Expenditure.

01:02:50 - 01:02:50

Worthington Town Hall

Expenditure.

01:02:50 - 01:02:51

Worthington Town Hall

Second.

01:02:53 - 01:02:53

Worthington Town Hall

Session.

01:02:54 - 01:02:55

Worthington Town Hall

All in favor.

01:02:56 - 01:02:56

Worthington Town Hall

Aye.

01:02:57 - 01:02:59

Worthington Town Hall

So why don't we.

01:03:01 - 01:03:05

Worthington Town Hall

Can you follow up with them and ask if that's still something we need to talk about?

01:03:05 - 01:03:06

Worthington Town Hall

Sure.

01:03:06 - 01:03:07

Worthington Town Hall

I wonder if that's the guy I talked to.

01:03:07 - 01:03:11

Worthington Town Hall

Well, it's David Reynolds that we were talking to about it before, right?

01:03:11 - 01:03:14

Worthington Town Hall

The engineer who's at the.

01:03:14 - 01:03:15

Worthington Town Hall

Right, I assume he's still here.

01:03:15 - 01:03:17

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, so I'll just.

01:03:17 - 01:03:20

Worthington Town Hall

Definitely And did the other guy disappear?

01:03:20 - 01:03:20

Worthington Town Hall

It must be.

01:03:20 - 01:03:21

Worthington Town Hall

They're done with this for a long time.

01:03:22 - 01:03:23

Worthington Town Hall

Well, they took over that.

01:03:27 - 01:03:29

Worthington Town Hall

I don't know why there's two cars there all the time.

01:03:29 - 01:03:37

Worthington Town Hall

So there's obviously more than just party party Maybe just the day I happen to be there There's.

01:03:37 - 01:03:39

Mike Dondiego

There's still two guys working DOT stuff upstairs.

01:03:40 - 01:03:41

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

01:03:41 - 01:03:41

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

01:03:41 - 01:03:44

Worthington Town Hall

So yeah, we got our mole on the inside.

01:03:46 - 01:03:52

Worthington Town Hall

Is there going to be another coat on the first piece that they did between, you know, Liston's and East Windsor?

01:03:52 - 01:03:54

Worthington Town Hall

Do they put another coat on in the spring?

01:03:54 - 01:03:54

Worthington Town Hall

Oh, yeah.

01:03:54 - 01:03:55

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

01:03:55 - 01:04:01

Worthington Town Hall

Well, they do that usually the last years when they do a lot of it's not actually completely done.

01:04:02 - 01:04:18

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, there was a question that a resident along the part that they repaved had a question about the driveways come the spring because apparently they built them out a little bit and when they cloud, it just kind of destroyed it.

01:04:18 - 01:04:21

Worthington Town Hall

So she was wondering, are they gonna fix that?

01:04:21 - 01:04:25

Worthington Town Hall

And I said, I'm sure they will, but it won't be till later.

01:04:26 - 01:04:26

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

01:04:27 - 01:04:31

Worthington Town Hall

But yeah, I had a comment from somebody that's supposed to have had a rough, so it's not the final version.

01:04:31 - 01:04:32

Worthington Town Hall

It's a lot better than it used to be.

01:04:33 - 01:04:33

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, for sure.

01:04:33 - 01:04:34

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, for sure.

01:04:34 - 01:04:39

Worthington Town Hall

All right, so FY27 budget, there's not a lot to talk about here.

01:04:39 - 01:05:00

Worthington Town Hall

The way I gave them to you, the ones that are just free-floating, those are the ones that I take care of for the site board mainly, but all these other ones are all different departments, but usually there's something in there that I have to do too, like with

the COA I have to get the lease with those kind of things.

01:05:00 - 01:05:08

Worthington Town Hall

So with the inspectors I have to walk them through it, but yeah, anyway, I just printed them up tonight, so now I have.

01:05:10 - 01:05:15

Worthington Town Hall

So the the committee has asked to have these by February 1st, which is next week.

01:05:16 - 01:05:18

Worthington Town Hall

We don't meet again to the 10th.

01:05:18 - 01:05:25

Worthington Town Hall

So what I asked Peggy before the meeting was whether she could at least get our preliminary version to them next week.

01:05:26 - 01:05:29

Worthington Town Hall

And then we could talk about it at the 10th on the 10th.

01:05:30 - 01:05:33

Worthington Town Hall

Adjustments where we might potentially make cuts if we had to.

01:05:34 - 01:05:40

Worthington Town Hall

And for sure, by the 10th, I should have some of all of the things that I have to go out to do for.

01:05:41 - 01:05:48

Worthington Town Hall

And I'll make sure to send out the version from last year that had the potential cuts identified.

01:05:48 - 01:05:52

Worthington Town Hall

So with notes about what that would mean, I guess.

01:05:54 - 01:06:17

Worthington Town Hall

So that's it for budget so a special time meeting coming up on the 24th yeah we have things we want to put on that warrant we don't have to decide tonight but we should be getting prepared yeah I just want to decide by the 10th is that in time you know that's making me nervous also I called Kevin O 'Connor just I said.

01:06:17 - 01:06:24

Worthington Town Hall

You know, so if we do this on the 10th, then that's exactly 14 days till the meeting.

01:06:25 - 01:06:28

Worthington Town Hall

So maybe we could do it before the planning board meeting.

01:06:28 - 01:06:32

Worthington Town Hall

I know, just so that then I could have Jay Dresnick come over and post it that very night.

01:06:33 - 01:06:35

Worthington Town Hall

But probably- Before the planning board meeting?

01:06:35 - 01:06:37

Worthington Town Hall

They're meeting at six o 'clock, right?

01:06:37 - 01:06:40

Worthington Town Hall

The planning board on the night of the special town meeting.

01:06:41 - 01:06:42

Worthington Town Hall
They're having a hearing.

01:06:43 - 01:06:45

Worthington Town Hall
So what are you asking?

01:06:45 - 01:06:53

Worthington Town Hall

Well, I- They're hearing is on the 10th is 24 so yeah, so this we have to decide on what's gonna be.

01:06:58 - 01:07:12

Worthington Town Hall

So yeah, um the 10th if the 10th is the latest really You know.

01:07:16 - 01:07:17

Worthington Town Hall

What does it have to post by?

01:07:17 - 01:07:20

Worthington Town Hall

It has to be posted on the 10th.

01:07:20 - 01:07:22

Worthington Town Hall

So we have to meet before the 10th?

01:07:22 - 01:07:24

Worthington Town Hall

That was the night I met Jay.

01:07:24 - 01:07:28

Worthington Town Hall

So yeah, so either the night before or earlier in the day.

01:07:29 - 01:07:36

Worthington Town Hall

It has to be posted before 7 o 'clock on the 10th, because that's when the meeting is on the 24th.

01:07:36 - 01:07:37

Worthington Town Hall

It's at 7 o 'clock.

01:07:37 - 01:07:39

Worthington Town Hall

So what do you anticipate?

01:07:39 - 01:07:40

Worthington Town Hall

I can tell you.

01:07:41 - 01:07:42

Worthington Town Hall

Mike, do you have stuff?

01:07:43 - 01:07:44

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, I have a few of his things.

01:07:44 - 01:07:45

Worthington Town Hall

Ok, you have his stuff.

01:07:45 - 01:07:46

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

01:07:46 - 01:07:46

Worthington Town Hall

Go ahead.

01:07:48 - 01:07:48

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

01:07:50 - 01:08:06

Worthington Town Hall

So Springbrook, that's the account, the soft right, they gave, last year for Innal Town meeting, they gave us a proposal and then they raised the proposal, then they raised, they always came in higher and I fussed with them all over the place and they didn't change it.

01:08:06 - 01:08:10

Worthington Town Hall

So we owe them \$572.57.

01:08:10 - 01:08:17

Worthington Town Hall

There's two fire department bills that are needed.

01:08:21 - 01:08:28

Worthington Town Hall

One is for 693.01 and the other is for 54.70.

01:08:28 - 01:08:30

Worthington Town Hall

Was there anything else Mike?

01:08:31 - 01:08:32

Worthington Town Hall

Those are the only two I have.

01:08:32 - 01:08:34

Mike Dondiego

Those are the only two.

01:08:34 - 01:09:02

Worthington Town Hall

Okay that's good um and the um and then the petition and um Catherine might have something that she needs because of the override there was funding that she had to

use uh there was funding she had to use for doing the override so she had to it was ballot question that she wasn't anticipating.

01:09:02 - 01:09:06

Worthington Town Hall

So she's gonna have something and I don't know what it is she wasn't in today.

01:09:08 - 01:09:09

Worthington Town Hall

So those are the three things plus the petition.

01:09:09 - 01:09:13

Worthington Town Hall

So she's gonna ask for some sort of funds for her to do her job.

01:09:13 - 01:09:15

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, because it used money but she didn't.

01:09:15 - 01:09:17

Worthington Town Hall

Right, she didn't anticipate.

01:09:17 - 01:09:18

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, okay.

01:09:19 - 01:09:22

Worthington Town Hall

So I guess that's pretty much it.

01:09:22 - 01:09:23

Worthington Town Hall

Can you think of anything?

01:09:24 - 01:09:26

Worthington Town Hall

Doesn't it feel like we should have more.

01:09:26 - 01:09:27

Worthington Town Hall

Alex's property.

01:09:27 - 01:09:28

Worthington Town Hall

Oh, Alex's property.

01:09:28 - 01:09:30

Worthington Town Hall

Right, so that's.

01:09:32 - 01:09:35

Worthington Town Hall

So that's on the agenda coming up next anyway.

01:09:36 - 01:09:39

Worthington Town Hall

So I spoke to Alex, he came in before the meeting.

01:09:42 - 01:09:55

Worthington Town Hall

And we're talking about a number to in essence put a hold on his property till we can bring it to annual town meeting to consider a purchase a site for a new highway garage.

01:09:56 - 01:10:06

Worthington Town Hall

So it's on the market now and I'm really not comfortable taking a special time meeting to purchase this property, I think the whole time, right?

01:10:06 - 01:10:07

Worthington Town Hall

Annual time meeting is where that belongs.

01:10:09 - 01:10:26

Worthington Town Hall

Spend a little money to hold it and contingent upon annual time meeting approval, but it's not unlike a normal deposit, it's not contingent upon financing, he would keep it regardless as a good-faith fund to hold his property.

01:10:26 - 01:10:28

Worthington Town Hall

And I did check that that's OK.

01:10:28 - 01:10:33

Worthington Town Hall

Yes, I spoke to an attorney with KP Law, who does all their real estate stuff.

01:10:34 - 01:10:36

Worthington Town Hall

She said it was a little unusual, but it was definitely doable.

01:10:37 - 01:10:38

Worthington Town Hall

Is that Annie Klein?

01:10:38 - 01:10:39

Worthington Town Hall

I think so, yeah.

01:10:41 - 01:10:45

Worthington Town Hall

So that will potentially be on the board, too.

01:10:46 - 01:10:47

Worthington Town Hall

Don't have a number yet.

01:10:49 - 01:10:49

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

01:10:50 - 01:10:50

Worthington Town Hall

Good.

01:10:52 - 01:10:53

Mike Dondiego

Mike, go ahead.

01:10:53 - 01:10:53

Mike Dondiego

Yeah.

01:10:54 - 01:10:58

Mike Dondiego

So, Charlie, I'm just not familiar with these special town warrant exercises.

01:11:00 - 01:11:03

Mike Dondiego

So I don't know if you had questions about the two fire.

01:11:03 - 01:11:07

Mike Dondiego

Department bills that we're asking to try and get paid.

01:11:07 - 01:11:13

Mike Dondiego

And I'm just curious, I don't want to get, you know, at the last minute and then have to scramble to get answered.

01:11:14 - 01:11:17

Mike Dondiego

So I'm curious if those questions or if you want me to describe.

01:11:17 - 01:11:19

Mike Dondiego

What they entail.

01:11:20 - 01:11:22

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, quick description would be great.

01:11:22 - 01:11:23

Mike Dondiego

All right.

01:11:23 - 01:11:30

Mike Dondiego

So the one for \$690 is an overdue Eversource bill from the previous fiscal year.

01:11:30 - 01:11:32

Mike Dondiego

I forget if it was like April or May.

01:11:33 - 01:11:34

Mike Dondiego

We missed that month.

01:11:35 - 01:11:38

Mike Dondiego

We couldn't pay it on subsequent months because we had rolled.

01:11:38 - 01:11:40

Mike Dondiego

Into the new year.

01:11:40 - 01:11:41

Mike Dondiego

So we missed that.

01:11:41 - 01:11:42

Mike Dondiego

One completely.

01:11:43 - 01:11:47

Mike Dondiego

We were getting notices from Eversource that if we didn't pay.

01:11:47 - 01:11:48

Worthington Town Hall

It, they would shut the.

01:11:48 - 01:11:49

Worthington Town Hall

Fire department off.

01:11:50 - 01:11:50

Worthington Town Hall

So.

01:11:50 - 01:11:53

Mike Dondiego

That was not really acceptable.

01:11:54 - 01:12:07

Mike Dondiego

So we ended up paying it from the association just to get it cleared off the books and being good standing with Eversource and now really we just need that money.

01:12:07 - 01:12:10

Mike Dondiego

To get refunded back to the Association.

01:12:10 - 01:12:11

Mike Dondiego

That's the first.

01:12:11 - 01:12:12

Worthington Town Hall

One.

01:12:13 - 01:12:14

Worthington Town Hall

Again.

01:12:14 - 01:12:15

Mike Dondiego

It's a bill.

01:12:15 - 01:12:18

Mike Dondiego

From the previous fiscal year.

01:12:19 - 01:12:22

Worthington Town Hall

So hang on Mike, before you go to this item.

01:12:23 - 01:12:26

Worthington Town Hall

So I just want to be sure there's no issue with us.

01:12:28 - 01:12:31

Worthington Town Hall

The prior bill is owed to Eversource.

01:12:32 - 01:12:43

Worthington Town Hall

I and essentially the association fronted the payment, I guess, could we reimburse the association?

01:12:44 - 01:12:46

Worthington Town Hall

I'm not sure if that's legal.

01:12:46 - 01:12:49

Mike Dondiego

Yeah, well, we have reimbursed the association for.

01:12:49 - 01:12:53

Mike Dondiego

Other items that have been purchased for the benefit of the department.

01:12:54 - 01:12:54

Worthington Town Hall

We have.

01:12:55 - 01:12:55

Mike Dondiego

Yes.

01:12:55 - 01:12:58

Worthington Town Hall

But not as part of a paying off.

01:12:59 - 01:13:03

Worthington Town Hall

You're really asking, this is really not a prior year payment.

01:13:03 - 01:13:10

Worthington Town Hall

This is what a new payment at this point to the solution, which is actually an easier left Well.

01:13:10 - 01:13:19

Mike Dondiego

I guess I don't I don't know how it's the best way to slice it I mean the bill was incurred originally from Eversource in the previous fiscal year.

01:13:20 - 01:13:20

Worthington Town Hall

Right.

01:13:21 - 01:13:21

Worthington Town Hall

We.

01:13:21 - 01:13:24

Mike Dondiego

Paid it from the Association to clear the books with Eversource.

01:13:25 - 01:13:27

Mike Dondiego

I don't know whether it makes a difference whether it's.

01:13:27 - 01:13:28

Worthington Town Hall

It does.

01:13:28 - 01:13:29

Worthington Town Hall

Paid from.

01:13:29 - 01:13:32

Mike Dondiego

This year's budget or paid from the previous year's.

01:13:32 - 01:13:32

Mike Dondiego

Budget?

01:13:32 - 01:13:36

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, we're going to have to get a legal opinion because you've made this complicated.

01:13:36 - 01:13:39

Worthington Town Hall

Or not, you know, I could just ask Kaylee.

01:13:39 - 01:13:41

Worthington Town Hall

Kaylee Dexter, the accountant.

01:13:43 - 01:13:47

Worthington Town Hall

Either way, somebody who knows her, she may or may not know the answer.

01:13:47 - 01:13:50

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, if she doesn't, Eric will know or Janice would know.

01:13:50 - 01:13:52

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, Eric will definitely know for sure.

01:13:52 - 01:14:09

Worthington Town Hall

Okay so I think it's just a question of if it's a prior year payment it's like a seven takes a seven-eights vote yeah virtually almost unanimous vote whereas if it's just um paying a bill and raising some appropriating money for a bill it's just a majority vote so big difference okay.

01:14:09 - 01:14:12

Mike Dondiego

Well I appreciate the uh the clarification.

01:14:12 - 01:14:23

Mike Dondiego

There and and the second one was similar but uh basically I think a Rockwood bill that we missed in the shuffle of bills coming through just.

01:14:25 - 01:14:39

Worthington Town Hall

What other record you remember the cow power Oh their portion of the bill So they're okay waiting for it No.

01:14:41 - 01:14:44

Mike Dondiego

But but we've been current with that account so I think it's just that one outstanding.

01:14:44 - 01:14:45

Worthington Town Hall

Account.

01:14:45 - 01:14:46

Mike Dondiego

\$54.

01:14:46 - 01:14:48

Worthington Town Hall

Something That's that a lot.

01:14:48 - 01:14:49

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, good.

01:14:49 - 01:14:51

Worthington Town Hall

So that is a prior year bill.

01:14:51 - 01:14:52

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, so good.

01:14:52 - 01:14:56

Worthington Town Hall

It's good that we talked about it, obviously, because the first one, there's a question here.

01:14:57 - 01:15:05

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, so we'll get an opinion and we'll know which way to list it when we talk about the warrant next time.

01:15:08 - 01:15:11

Mike Dondiego

So Peg, are you going to touch base with Kaylee?

01:15:12 - 01:15:15

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, I'll touch base with Kaylee.

01:15:15 - 01:15:17

Worthington Town Hall

And if she doesn't know, I'll move up the chain.

01:15:17 - 01:15:18

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

01:15:18 - 01:15:19

Worthington Town Hall

I'm sure Eric would know.

01:15:19 - 01:15:20

Worthington Town Hall

I'd be surprised.

01:15:20 - 01:15:21

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

01:15:21 - 01:15:21

Worthington Town Hall

Ok.

01:15:21 - 01:15:22

Worthington Town Hall

Well, thank you.

01:15:22 - 01:15:23

Mike Dondiego

Thank you so much.

01:15:23 - 01:15:24

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, of course.

01:15:26 - 01:15:29

Worthington Town Hall

So why don't we talk about when we're going to meet to do this?

01:15:31 - 01:15:32

Worthington Town Hall

Oh, yeah, to do that.

01:15:32 - 01:15:35

Worthington Town Hall

Do you want to just meet earlier on the 10th?

01:15:35 - 01:15:36

Worthington Town Hall

I don't think I can.

01:15:37 - 01:15:38

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

01:15:40 - 01:15:41

Worthington Town Hall

Ok.

01:15:41 - 01:15:42

Worthington Town Hall

It would be difficult.

01:15:42 - 01:15:44

Worthington Town Hall

That's fine.

01:15:44 - 01:15:46

Worthington Town Hall

Do you guys want to meet on the 9th?

01:15:46 - 01:15:49

Worthington Town Hall

I could meet on the 9th.

01:15:49 - 01:15:55

Worthington Town Hall

We could meet just, we could meet, have our entire meeting on the 9th instead of the 10th or we could meet just for this.

01:15:56 - 01:15:58

Worthington Town Hall

Why meet two nights in a row?

01:15:59 - 01:16:04

Worthington Town Hall

I'd be up for moving at our regular meeting to the 9th and doing it.

01:16:04 - 01:16:04

Worthington Town Hall

Let's do it.

01:16:04 - 01:16:06

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, I could do that.

01:16:06 - 01:16:10

Worthington Town Hall

I mean just double Right, as we move it and Charlie goes, oh wait.

01:16:10 - 01:16:16

Worthington Town Hall

I have some sort of appointment, but I'm sure I'm not, it's a doctor's appointment at 1030, it says PM.

01:16:16 - 01:16:17

Worthington Town Hall

I'm sure I put it in wrong.

01:16:17 - 01:16:18

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, right.

01:16:19 - 01:16:23

Worthington Town Hall

So, um, so that's fine with me.

01:16:23 - 01:16:24

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

01:16:24 - 01:16:26

Worthington Town Hall

So we'll meet on the 9th.

01:16:26 - 01:16:26

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, that's perfect.

01:16:27 - 01:16:27

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

01:16:30 - 01:16:36

Worthington Town Hall

Um, we should probably let Michael know, because he's working on stuff for that agenda.

01:16:36 - 01:16:38

Worthington Town Hall
Michael Terpensio.

01:16:38 - 01:16:39
Worthington Town Hall
Oh, right.

01:16:40 - 01:16:40
Worthington Town Hall
Yes.

01:16:40 - 01:16:41
Worthington Town Hall
That's a good idea.

01:16:41 - 01:16:41
Worthington Town Hall
Yes.

01:16:41 - 01:16:42
Worthington Town Hall
Yes, right.

01:16:42 - 01:16:43
Worthington Town Hall
I already started.

01:16:47 - 01:16:50
Worthington Town Hall
Right, so, okay make sure he knows he's got one of these.

01:16:50 - 01:16:51
Worthington Town Hall
Okay.

01:16:52 - 01:16:53
Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

01:16:53 - 01:16:59

Worthington Town Hall

All right moving on informational items You want to talk about the safety committee meeting?

01:16:59 - 01:16:59

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, sure.

01:16:59 - 01:17:08

Worthington Town Hall

So January 7th, we had what was referred to as our You're saying January 14th, say, the committee meeting wasn't on the 7th?

01:17:09 - 01:17:11

Worthington Town Hall

It was initially supposed to be on the 7th.

01:17:11 - 01:17:12

Worthington Town Hall

Oh, then we moved it.

01:17:13 - 01:17:13

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

01:17:14 - 01:17:17

Worthington Town Hall

Anyway, this was the annual risk meeting.

01:17:18 - 01:17:22

Worthington Town Hall

So, I mean, he basically went through pretty much what he had gone through with us before.

01:17:23 - 01:17:24

Worthington Town Hall

Where does it stand now?

01:17:24 - 01:17:28

Worthington Town Hall

What were the losses and claims as of June 2025?

01:17:30 - 01:17:51

Worthington Town Hall

And he outlined it, how many claims we've had, a total of six within a three-year time frame, so much 40% property, 20% GL, 20% inland marine, which is DPW public works, 20% auto physical damage, and he discussed our different claims.

01:17:51 - 01:17:53

Worthington Town Hall

We're averaging two claims a year.

01:17:54 - 01:18:00

Worthington Town Hall

The cruiser, which remember the old cruiser that got that year, that falls off at the end of this year.

01:18:01 - 01:18:10

Worthington Town Hall

This year it won't appear on next year's, so our losses will no longer, assuming we don't have another, won't be two per year, it would be like one per year.

01:18:13 - 01:18:28

Worthington Town Hall

And he talked about various loss dollars, which are basically legal fees for claims against the town.

01:18:29 - 01:18:43

Worthington Town Hall

So we've had like three claims against the town, two the same individual one actually was not the same individual but it was a different case which is unfortunate.

01:18:44 - 01:19:04

Worthington Town Hall

We don't have huge losses but our losses we had three claims over 25 ,000 in the three-year span and then he said the total loss dollars the expenses were So then they average it per year, so it's average of 57 ,000 per year.

01:19:04 - 01:19:20

Worthington Town Hall

Workers' Comp, we have one claim and one claim only, which is still there, and sort of funny, the most common department for workers' comp claims are, is the school, but this is not a school claim.

01:19:20 - 01:19:26

Worthington Town Hall

This is a highway claim, so we were hoping that at some point it will end, but it's not happening yet.

01:19:28 - 01:19:38

Worthington Town Hall

So, it said the FY26 rewards are out and due by 5-20-26, but I don't know that we're getting any rewards.

01:19:38 - 01:19:39

Worthington Town Hall

No, I used the rewards.

01:19:39 - 01:19:40

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, you did.

01:19:40 - 01:19:44

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, which is the best way to do it, as he agreed.

01:19:46 - 01:19:53

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, he talked about our different rewards, so various things that we do will give us

rewards.

01:19:53 - 01:19:56

Worthington Town Hall

So like there are auto rewards.

01:19:56 - 01:20:00

Worthington Town Hall

We have 0.25% out of a possible 3%.

01:20:00 - 01:20:09

Worthington Town Hall

So one of the things he talked about that can help is curiously driver training with the COA for the seniors.

01:20:09 - 01:20:10

Worthington Town Hall

Oh, is that right?

01:20:10 - 01:20:10

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

01:20:11 - 01:20:14

Worthington Town Hall

He mentioned that and I thought that's actually probably not a bad idea.

01:20:15 - 01:20:44

Worthington Town Hall

But obviously any auto training that people who regularly drive vehicles take and the highway department, the police, the highway department, I know the fire department, they both participate in these and they get us little percentages so we could get a maximum of three percent back rewards out of our policy which we can then apply towards paying our policy but we don't.

01:20:44 - 01:20:46

Worthington Town Hall

So far we got like 0.25 percent.

01:20:47 - 01:20:48

Worthington Town Hall

GI, I forget what GL is.

01:20:49 - 01:20:49

Worthington Town Hall

General liability.

01:20:49 - 01:20:50

Worthington Town Hall

Thank you.

01:20:51 - 01:21:13

Worthington Town Hall

We have zero percent out of a possible four percent So there are things that we can take programs seminars that we can take and it depends on the division We the town town employees town Elected officials general liability some of that could be elected officials And we could conceivably get four percent.

01:21:13 - 01:21:17

Worthington Town Hall

But we only get we don't get any now law enforcement.

01:21:20 - 01:21:23

Worthington Town Hall

Law enforcement also gets zero out of a possible seven percent.

01:21:23 - 01:21:48

Worthington Town Hall

I mean, we only have one law enforcement officer So I'm not really sure and there's a lot of online training that they have to do constantly So I'm not really sure how much we can more we can really expect him to do Probably wonder if there's some of that that he does that he doesn't claim although my my recollection is that he was here the first Right Yeah He asked about a couple of things.

01:21:48 - 01:21:49

Worthington Town Hall
Can I get credit for that?

01:21:49 - 01:21:55

Worthington Town Hall

He's and some of it was no some of it was yes And there was something with the dog.

01:21:55 - 01:22:00

Worthington Town Hall

So we should make sure we Somebody's following up on the yeses, but there's stuff we can get credit for that.

01:22:00 - 01:22:01

Worthington Town Hall

He's doing anyway.

01:22:02 - 01:22:02

Worthington Town Hall

Yes.

01:22:02 - 01:22:07

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah Yes, actually he did come in he came in late.

01:22:07 - 01:22:12

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, he had a call So, can I just back up to the COA thing?

01:22:12 - 01:22:18

Worthington Town Hall

As I recall from the previous meeting, I think that has to do with we have the COA driving people, and they don't.

01:22:19 - 01:22:21

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, and we don't have the COA driving people.

01:22:21 - 01:22:22

Worthington Town Hall

No, not as far as I know.

01:22:22 - 01:22:25

Worthington Town Hall

No, there's the the CDC has that.

01:22:27 - 01:22:27

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

01:22:29 - 01:22:31

Worthington Town Hall

So public officials, that's also elected folks.

01:22:31 - 01:22:35

Worthington Town Hall

We actually got 3.25% out of a possible 7%.

01:22:35 - 01:22:36

Worthington Town Hall

That's because of the ones I take.

01:22:36 - 01:22:37

Worthington Town Hall

That's the ones you take.

01:22:37 - 01:22:39

Worthington Town Hall

Way to go, okay.

01:22:39 - 01:22:40

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, I like them.

01:22:40 - 01:22:42

Worthington Town Hall

I think I took one once but it's been a while.

01:22:42 - 01:22:48

Worthington Town Hall

I only take Yeah, yeah, some of them are some of them are just like, uh-huh.

01:22:48 - 01:22:59

Worthington Town Hall

No School board does point two five percent out of a possible seven percent and Workers comp does five point two five five percent out of three percent.

01:22:59 - 01:23:04

Worthington Town Hall

So they overperformed But I don't know who is taking all the workers comp.

01:23:15 - 01:23:17

Worthington Town Hall

I went to an injured-on-duty thing.

01:23:20 - 01:23:23

Worthington Town Hall

Yes, which actually was important.

01:23:23 - 01:23:28

Worthington Town Hall

So anyway, he went through all the different awards and then he talked about the grants and the grant program.

01:23:29 - 01:23:38

Worthington Town Hall

We should look for the FY 27 grants in and the grants are things that can do fun things for us like the platform at the transfer station.

01:23:39 - 01:23:54

Worthington Town Hall

There are grants that we could apply for that would buy us a replacement platform to replace those steps that are all, you know, falling apart and they would very much like to do that because that is a liability.

01:23:54 - 01:23:56

Worthington Town Hall

He's not seen it, has he?

01:23:57 - 01:23:58

Worthington Town Hall

We told them it was.

01:23:58 - 01:24:11

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, we told them it's a So I mean they they would very much like to do that There are a bunch of training programs and everybody's looking to see what grants they have and what could it possibly do them There are some small things.

01:24:11 - 01:24:17

Worthington Town Hall

I believe that it gives the fire department I See that Emily long he has a hand.

01:24:17 - 01:24:18

Worthington Town Hall

It's okay.

01:24:18 - 01:24:20

Worthington Town Hall

Emily knows we're waiting to the end of the meeting.

01:24:20 - 01:24:24

Worthington Town Hall

Okay So unless it has to do with Safety Committee, does it?

01:24:27 - 01:24:46

Emily L

Yeah, actually I do have a question regarding, I don't know if you guys have talked to or the town insurance provider, if there'll be any changes since we have a, or if we

have an industrial site in town, if we have the solar field.

01:24:48 - 01:24:52

Worthington Town Hall

I don't see why there would be, but we have not had that discussion.

01:24:53 - 01:24:55

Worthington Town Hall

No, this is the town insurance supplier.

01:24:55 - 01:25:00

Worthington Town Hall

This is insurance that the town carries against things that the town does.

01:25:00 - 01:25:01

Emily L

So.

01:25:01 - 01:25:09

Worthington Town Hall

Liability if you know, but right a town employee hurts somebody or whatever These are you know town liability insurance, basically, right?

01:25:09 - 01:25:14

Worthington Town Hall

So I'm not sure how we would insure ourselves against some sort of Third party.

01:25:14 - 01:25:15

Emily L

Thing going.

01:25:15 - 01:25:17

Worthington Town Hall

On Yeah.

01:25:22 - 01:25:23

Emily L

All right, I just see.

01:25:23 - 01:25:48

Emily L

Um there since well I'm kind of wondering if the select board would be involved in any sort of overlooking the insurance that's provided by or like the decommissioning bond provided by the.

01:25:48 - 01:25:49

Worthington Town Hall

Solar provider.

01:25:51 - 01:25:54

Worthington Town Hall

Emily, this is not relevant to what we're talking about.

01:25:57 - 01:26:00

Worthington Town Hall

So I'll get to your chat here in a minute as soon as we finish this.

01:26:02 - 01:26:19

Worthington Town Hall

So, he did review the FY26 training calendar, and there are programs that the Highway Police and Fire Department were taking, especially Highway and Fire, about driver training.

01:26:19 - 01:26:26

Worthington Town Hall

It was like, Mike, it was some sort of like an obstacle course with large vehicles, if I remember.

01:26:28 - 01:26:30

Mike Dondiego

We've done that in the past.

01:26:30 - 01:26:36

Mike Dondiego

There's actually an upcoming training session in early February, four nights in

February.

01:26:37 - 01:26:44

Mike Dondiego

Comington has organized it, a classroom session and an overview on Monday, I'll say the.

01:26:44 - 01:26:45

Worthington Town Hall

9th, and.

01:26:45 - 01:26:47

Mike Dondiego

Then various people are signing up for it.

01:26:47 - 01:26:48

Mike Dondiego

It's a simulator training.

01:26:48 - 01:26:52

Mike Dondiego

I've not done simulator training before, but we have seven.

01:26:52 - 01:26:54

Mike Dondiego

Or eight people signed up for the.

01:26:54 - 01:26:57

Mike Dondiego

Simulator training across the department.

01:26:59 - 01:27:34

Worthington Town Hall

Right and we get credits for those for this type of training because this actually hopefully will lead to to help prevent any sort of accidents or bad maneuvering by any of our employees so everybody was participating and I know Highway was doing it as well so and I know the police department they have kind of have their own but I don't think they were participating in this I do remember when Bob Renke did the

obstacle course at the police department.

01:27:35 - 01:27:36

Worthington Town Hall

He performed very well.

01:27:37 - 01:27:40

Worthington Town Hall

He said you had to go through it forwards, and then you had to go through it backwards.

01:27:41 - 01:27:44

Worthington Town Hall

And they were kind of amazed at how fast he did that.

01:27:44 - 01:27:46

Worthington Town Hall

But that was Bob.

01:27:47 - 01:27:53

Worthington Town Hall

And they discussed other things that we can do that can sort of manage some of our risk.

01:27:53 - 01:28:25

Worthington Town Hall

There's a driver's license verification program, Which is a very curious thing called driver verification verification system And what it does is you do have to camp the consent of your employee But we can take everybody who works with the highway department They agree We verified that their personal driver's license is actually still valid Because apparently there are a lot of places where the highway department employees the fire department employees police department maybe driving with invalid licenses.

01:28:30 - 01:28:33

Worthington Town Hall

So that's something that I think we should pursue.

01:28:33 - 01:28:34

Worthington Town Hall
Does that cost money?

01:28:34 - 01:28:35

Worthington Town Hall
No, I think it's free.

01:28:35 - 01:28:36

Worthington Town Hall
You just sign up for it.

01:28:37 - 01:28:43

Worthington Town Hall
But the employee doesn't have to agree to let you check his license.

01:28:44 - 01:28:49

Worthington Town Hall
Well, if they don't agree then we can ask them to sign something that states that their license is valid.

01:28:49 - 01:28:50

Worthington Town Hall
Yes, exactly.

01:28:51 - 01:28:56

Worthington Town Hall
So yeah, oh, this is what it was as a fire department doing a simulation training in Cummington.

01:28:56 - 01:28:57

Worthington Town Hall
I did have that here.

01:28:58 - 01:29:00

Worthington Town Hall

So that seems like an interesting program.

01:29:00 - 01:29:05

Worthington Town Hall

And it's basically, there are on the agenda for the risk management.

01:29:05 - 01:29:11

Worthington Town Hall

And I don't know that he sent it to us in the end, but we can always get it from him from Jordan if he didn't send it.

01:29:11 - 01:29:17

Worthington Town Hall

There are links to the grant program, to training, to the rewards.

01:29:17 - 01:29:24

Worthington Town Hall

And if you click on those links, they'll take you to things that we could possibly do, classes you can take.

01:29:24 - 01:29:39

Worthington Town Hall

I think I took a Maya class on actually EV, fires and EV batteries, fires and EVs, which was a fascinating thing because it actually came in.

01:29:43 - 01:29:48

Worthington Town Hall

I mean I remember seeing one standing at the door one time waiting to be let out.

01:29:48 - 01:29:50

Worthington Town Hall

It's right there now, go ahead.

01:29:50 - 01:30:07

Worthington Town Hall

Anyway, so I took one of those which for me was very informational and it made me realize that most people, much as you might want an electric scooter, maybe you

don't, let's put it that way.

01:30:07 - 01:30:17

Worthington Town Hall

Those are the ones apparently that have the batteries that are most vulnerable because when they're being, people rebuild them but they rebuild them in their garages which is not a really good idea.

01:30:17 - 01:30:20

Worthington Town Hall

So it's not really certified, it's not really tested.

01:30:20 - 01:30:31

Worthington Town Hall

If you get a certified, tested, rebuilt battery, you're probably good, but so there are a lot of courses that they do have available, but you have to have the time.

01:30:32 - 01:30:33

Worthington Town Hall

In our ample free time.

01:30:33 - 01:30:36

Worthington Town Hall

So of all that stuff, is there stuff that there's a plan to do?

01:30:37 - 01:30:39

Worthington Town Hall

Or just these are all things we could do and we're not...

01:30:39 - 01:30:40

Worthington Town Hall

No, there are plans.

01:30:41 - 01:30:43

Worthington Town Hall

The fire department's doing some.

01:30:43 - 01:30:48

Worthington Town Hall

The highway department, This is actually mention the highway in the fire doing the driving thing.

01:30:50 - 01:30:53

Worthington Town Hall

Taking any classes or anything no not directly.

01:30:53 - 01:31:14

Worthington Town Hall

I mean I can look and see what they have I don't know what they have most of what they have is not necessary They'll have things about open meeting law violations and things like yeah, they send things on a regular basis Yeah, so which could be helpful for us to take that and then we're a little or the You know ethics and ethics course, yeah Yeah.

01:31:17 - 01:31:29

Worthington Town Hall

They come in a lot they come in a lot they come in frequently, right, but every time you know It's so this is the insurance company if there's something in there that that you think okay, that could be interesting They're not immensely long.

01:31:29 - 01:31:49

Worthington Town Hall

It's not like hours worth of it But they can be interesting yeah, and once you do it it automatically Goes to Maya And then we get a little tiny percentage credit So I guess should we try to identify some stuff to do in order to get some credits?

01:31:49 - 01:31:56

Worthington Town Hall

I'd have to go and look at each of these essentially reduces the cost of our insurance Right, I could I could go try and take a peek.

01:32:01 - 01:32:06

Worthington Town Hall

But if it costs It'll say right on this.

01:32:09 - 01:32:14

Worthington Town Hall

I mean, there's all different, you know, there's property liability and then there's health insurance.

01:32:14 - 01:32:15

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, yeah.

01:32:15 - 01:32:16

Worthington Town Hall

All right.

01:32:16 - 01:32:16

Worthington Town Hall

Well, thank you.

01:32:17 - 01:32:20

Worthington Town Hall

I just think if we're going to take the trouble of having these meetings, we ought to try to...

01:32:20 - 01:32:22

Worthington Town Hall

He's going to do these every quarter.

01:32:22 - 01:32:24

Worthington Town Hall

Right, but if we're not doing anything, what's the point?

01:32:25 - 01:32:28

Worthington Town Hall

Well, it's good because it keeps it kind of front and center.

01:32:29 - 01:32:31

Worthington Town Hall

Fire has their own set of grants.

01:32:31 - 01:32:33

Worthington Town Hall

School has its own set of grants.

01:32:33 - 01:32:35

Worthington Town Hall

So, he meets separately with school.

01:32:35 - 01:32:37

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, they get their own big chunk of change.

01:32:37 - 01:32:45

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, they get a huge chunk of fire and yeah, well and and right and Gretchen was talking about she already does a bunch of things.

01:32:45 - 01:32:46

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, she does.

01:32:46 - 01:32:46

Worthington Town Hall

Yep.

01:32:47 - 01:32:50

Worthington Town Hall

So let's move on to wood pellets because that's way more fun.

01:32:50 - 01:32:51

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, that was way fun.

01:32:52 - 01:33:04

Worthington Town Hall

So we were all actually at the and we didn't deliberate of course at the fire station on Saturday for the demo which I thought was great and And Jonathan and Dave are great.

01:33:04 - 01:33:10

Worthington Town Hall

We had a nice little turn out, it wasn't overwhelming, but I think maybe we had one person from out of town from the ocean.

01:33:12 - 01:33:13

Worthington Town Hall

Oh yeah, there's the mouse.

01:33:17 - 01:33:19

Worthington Town Hall

Oh, just went out the door underneath.

01:33:21 - 01:33:28

Worthington Town Hall

So it went well and that will allow us, or at least aid us in applying for another grant for this part, right?

01:33:28 - 01:33:29

Worthington Town Hall

Right, yeah.

01:33:30 - 01:33:31

Worthington Town Hall

Anything else to say about it?

01:33:31 - 01:33:34

Worthington Town Hall

Now, I have to do the final report.

01:33:34 - 01:33:35

Worthington Town Hall

I've got two final reports.

01:33:35 - 01:33:41

Worthington Town Hall

I have to do one on the weatherization thing, and I have to do one for the wood pellet burger.

01:33:41 - 01:33:45

Worthington Town Hall

And then I've got three grants going in the works 34.

01:33:46 - 01:33:47

Worthington Town Hall

So, yeah.

01:33:47 - 01:33:47

Worthington Town Hall

Ok.

01:33:47 - 01:33:49

Worthington Town Hall

That's awesome, Peg, that you do that.

01:33:49 - 01:33:50

Worthington Town Hall

Thank you so much.

01:33:50 - 01:33:50

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, we've saved a lot of time.

01:33:50 - 01:33:53

Worthington Town Hall

She gets us millions of dishes every year.

01:33:53 - 01:33:59

Worthington Town Hall

Not to mention, we just got \$50 ,000 to finish that, right, because you asked.

01:33:59 - 01:33:59

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

01:34:01 - 01:34:04

Worthington Town Hall

That's it, I never used to ask, I always ask now.

01:34:06 - 01:34:22

Worthington Town Hall

One thing I was interested in from the pellet burner is the ash that he was talking about, the very fine ash, that he was saying that, you know, this is not the time to do it, but in the spring when things are a little wetter, if you mix it into a slurry and you pour it into the holes in your driveway, it will harden.

01:34:23 - 01:34:24

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, he says it'll harden.

01:34:25 - 01:34:28

Worthington Town Hall

He said you don't even mix it, you just put it in the hole.

01:34:29 - 01:34:30

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, you might need to throw in a little water.

01:34:32 - 01:34:33

Worthington Town Hall

But I mean, it was super fine.

01:34:34 - 01:34:36

Worthington Town Hall

It wasn't typically what you think of as wood ash.

01:34:37 - 01:34:40

Worthington Town Hall

No, and which is the reason why it's not a good thing to say, oh, I'll take some of it.

01:34:42 - 01:34:44

Worthington Town Hall

You won't be tracking it into your house.

01:34:44 - 01:34:50

Worthington Town Hall

Essentially, what he said was it's minerals that are left over, so it really isn't traditional wood ash.

01:34:50 - 01:34:51

Worthington Town Hall

No.

01:34:51 - 01:34:52

Worthington Town Hall

But it's good for you guys.

01:34:52 - 01:34:52

Worthington Town Hall

What's his name?

01:34:53 - 01:34:54

Worthington Town Hall

Who's Parrot just last name?

01:34:55 - 01:34:55

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, Jonathan.

01:34:55 - 01:34:56

Worthington Town Hall

Jonathan Parrot.

01:34:56 - 01:34:57

Worthington Town Hall

He puts it on his garden.

01:34:58 - 01:35:10

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah Yeah Okay, why don't we put the Pleasant Street Bridge on an upcoming agenda so we can start updating people on that Since we're probably looking at that happening.

01:35:10 - 01:35:10

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

01:35:10 - 01:35:26

Worthington Town Hall

Well, yeah I'm gonna go out to bid for I have to make up an invitation for bits and stuff for that And I told her I'd do it within two in two weeks because I've got to do the budget first So Mike, I know you had asked about it at a previous meeting.

01:35:26 - 01:35:33

Worthington Town Hall

So we did get the extra Money that we needed to be able to move forward with that project.

01:35:33 - 01:35:45

Worthington Town Hall

So most likely that'll be happening this summer After me the people yeah, the people there have a shin dig on their property in the way so the afternoon.

01:35:46 - 01:35:46

Mike Dondiego

Yeah.

01:35:46 - 01:35:47

Worthington Town Hall

So.

01:35:47 - 01:35:57

Mike Dondiego

That's some stuff we have to coordinate with the homeowners and the residents there, the unavailability of their road, the temporary pedestrian bridge.

01:35:57 - 01:35:59

Mike Dondiego

And we had talked in the past.

01:35:59 - 01:36:00

Worthington Town Hall

Of.

01:36:00 - 01:36:07

Mike Dondiego

Staging some equipment there and or doing maybe a practice drill with some of our neighboring towns.

01:36:08 - 01:36:08

Worthington Town Hall

So.

01:36:08 - 01:36:13

Mike Dondiego

I just need to know that when that timing starts to look more real if it's May or.

01:36:13 - 01:36:14

Mike Dondiego

June This year.

01:36:15 - 01:36:19

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, it'll be it will be Yeah, it'll be june at the earliest.

01:36:19 - 01:36:20

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

01:36:20 - 01:36:20

Mike Dondiego

So.

01:36:20 - 01:36:22

Worthington Town Hall

Juniors sometime in the summer.

01:36:22 - 01:36:24

Worthington Town Hall

We'll certainly make sure, you know.

01:36:24 - 01:36:25

Mike Dondiego

Okay.

01:36:25 - 01:36:25

Worthington Town Hall

Can I ask you about?

01:36:26 - 01:36:28

Worthington Town Hall

I want to ask about one thing that's on the agenda.

01:36:28 - 01:36:34

Worthington Town Hall

So it says move the Senior center meeting no senior center meeting was postponed because of the weather right?

01:36:34 - 01:36:39

Worthington Town Hall

It's being moved to friday 1 30 at 3 30 at 3 p.m But that's not like a select board.

01:36:39 - 01:36:42

Worthington Town Hall

No, no, okay, and I go to those meetings.

01:36:42 - 01:36:45

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah, okay Yeah, I wonder guys like I haven't gone.

01:36:46 - 01:36:47

Worthington Town Hall

No, it's a committee.

01:36:56 - 01:37:15

Worthington Town Hall

So that's everything on the agenda we have a comment here from Emily and then I'm gonna let you speak to it if you if you need to At least one planning board member indicated on two occasions that they believe the town is under a contract that prevents it from seeking a second legal opinion.

01:37:15 - 01:37:21

Worthington Town Hall

Multiple residents have raised serious concerns about this and are requesting that the town obtain an independent legal review.

01:37:22 - 01:37:26

Worthington Town Hall

These concerns stem from dissatisfaction with the current legal advice.

01:37:28 - 01:37:37

Worthington Town Hall

Procedural issues, response times, overall strategic guidance, and our town council's record of unsuccessful outcomes for municipalities and comparable cases.

01:37:37 - 01:37:51

Worthington Town Hall

Given the legal, financial, and public interest implications, Can the select board consider authorizing a second legal opinion to ensure the town's interests are being fully and effectively represented?

01:37:52 - 01:37:54

Worthington Town Hall

And then I guess you have a further comment there.

01:37:54 - 01:37:56

Worthington Town Hall

Sorry, what's going on behind me here with two kids?

01:37:56 - 01:38:00

Worthington Town Hall

I'm trying to say if the town will get or need any additional coverage.

01:38:00 - 01:38:01

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, that was about the insurance.

01:38:02 - 01:38:05

Worthington Town Hall

So, and I'll read that after here.

01:38:05 - 01:38:07

Worthington Town Hall

I didn't mean to just skip over it.

01:38:07 - 01:38:11

Worthington Town Hall

I think we can put this on an upcoming agenda.

01:38:12 - 01:38:17

Worthington Town Hall

I really think this would be a question for the planning board.

01:38:18 - 01:38:31

Worthington Town Hall

I don't honestly know what the protocol is or whether there is a protocol for getting second legal opinions on town council issues and exactly how that would be paid for.

01:38:31 - 01:38:35

Worthington Town Hall

But I think the request would need to come from the planning board.

01:38:35 - 01:38:43

Worthington Town Hall

And then certainly the biggest question, or at least one of the big questions is how it would be paid for.

01:38:43 - 01:38:44

Worthington Town Hall

The current legal.

01:38:48 - 01:39:04

Worthington Town Hall

Basically Blue Wave has to pay for all the consultants and the legal opinions and so forth, and legal consults, so that we have two consults, three consultants at this point I think they have between the legal engineering and an overall consultant.

01:39:04 - 01:39:07

Worthington Town Hall

So anyway, I think a request for a second opinion and would need to come from them.

01:39:07 - 01:39:09

Worthington Town Hall

But let's put this on an agenda.

01:39:10 - 01:39:15

Worthington Town Hall

Upcoming, I will talk to Bart and get his take on this.

01:39:15 - 01:39:20

Worthington Town Hall

And I guess I'll have to talk to Tom Consol about getting second legal opinions.

01:39:20 - 01:39:21

Worthington Town Hall

Seems a little odd, but who else.

01:39:21 - 01:39:22

Emily L

Am I gonna ask?

01:39:23 - 01:39:31

Emily L

Charlie, if you don't have a contract with them, you don't have to ask them if you could get a second legal opinion.

01:39:31 - 01:39:34

Worthington Town Hall

No, I'm not asking their permission.

01:39:34 - 01:39:40

Worthington Town Hall

I need to ask somebody for an opinion on how I would even go about doing this.

01:39:41 - 01:39:43

Emily L

Don't you, do you vote?

01:39:44 - 01:39:53

Emily L

So I'm assuming that the misunderstanding comes from the fact that you guys vote on who the town council will be, is that correct?

01:39:54 - 01:39:55

Worthington Town Hall

It is correct.

01:39:56 - 01:40:01

Worthington Town Hall

We appoint them yearly as part of our town appointments in the spring.

01:40:01 - 01:40:05

Emily L

Okay, so maybe it would just be, okay.

01:40:06 - 01:40:07

Emily L

Yeah, go ahead.

01:40:09 - 01:40:12

Worthington Town Hall

So like I said, I'm willing to look into this.

01:40:12 - 01:40:14

Worthington Town Hall

Let's put it on an upcoming agenda.

01:40:14 - 01:40:16

Worthington Town Hall

I definitely wanna talk to Bart.

01:40:16 - 01:40:25

Worthington Town Hall

It seems like protocol would be if the planning board feels they need a second opinion, they would be the one to ask us to do that again.

01:40:25 - 01:40:28

Worthington Town Hall

But again, I'm not sure who pays for that second legal opinion.

01:40:28 - 01:40:38

Emily L

Yeah, I it kind of if you want to tell KP law that the request is coming from, um.

01:40:39 - 01:40:39

Worthington Town Hall

Is.

01:40:39 - 01:40:43

Emily L

Coming from, sorry, it's been a long day.

01:40:43 - 01:40:48

Emily L

Um, that the request is coming from residents, not from you guys, because I know you guys.

01:40:48 - 01:40:52

Emily L

Have a good relationship with them and nobody wants to step on any any toes.

01:40:52 - 01:40:55

Emily L

Maybe that would be a good way to go about it.

01:40:55 - 01:40:56

Emily L

Too.

01:40:56 - 01:40:56

Worthington Town Hall

Well.

01:40:57 - 01:40:58

Emily L

Don't believe in them.

01:40:58 - 01:41:01

Emily L

I don't want them to feel put.

01:41:01 - 01:41:01

Worthington Town Hall

Off.

01:41:02 - 01:41:02

Emily L

No.

01:41:03 - 01:41:04

Worthington Town Hall

I wouldn't worry about that.

01:41:05 - 01:41:08

Worthington Town Hall

Everything we do is ultimately because the residents want us to do it.

01:41:08 - 01:41:11

Worthington Town Hall

That's what our job is not to just do what we want to do.

01:41:12 - 01:41:33

Worthington Town Hall

So I get, you know, I get you what you're asking for, whether this is something if there's an independent groups that feels the second of legal opinion is necessary, whether it's incumbent on them to go ahead and get it themselves, or whether it's something the town would do, I'd need to really learn more about it.

01:41:33 - 01:41:35

Worthington Town Hall

So I'm happy to try to do that.

01:41:35 - 01:41:38

Worthington Town Hall

And we'll put it on an upcoming agenda to discuss it.

01:41:41 - 01:41:47

Worthington Town Hall

And then, and I think, you know, you're making a case here and making a number of statements.

01:41:47 - 01:41:53

Worthington Town Hall

And if you really feel that strongly, I think you really need to introduce some actual facts here.

01:41:53 - 01:42:02

Worthington Town Hall

So if you're questioning, you know, previous work by our legal counsel, show us some examples and things like that.

01:42:02 - 01:42:04

Emily L

Sure, I could do that.

01:42:04 - 01:42:12

Emily L

I only know that's true because Bart had mentioned that the town council has gone up against Blue Wave on multiple occasions and lost.

01:42:13 - 01:42:14

Worthington Town Hall

So if that's what.

01:42:14 - 01:42:16

Emily L

You're referring to.

01:42:16 - 01:42:18

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, well, it depends on the situation.

01:42:18 - 01:42:21

Worthington Town Hall

And you know how this is working.

01:42:22 - 01:42:28

Worthington Town Hall

And so far, no town has had a whole lot of success opposing these things, regardless of who their council is.

01:42:29 - 01:42:29

Emily L

But- Oh yeah.

01:42:29 - 01:42:30

Worthington Town Hall

I.

01:42:30 - 01:42:31

Emily L

Definitely agree.

01:42:31 - 01:42:38

Emily L

But I think our situation is very different considering where the siting is.

01:42:38 - 01:42:38

Worthington Town Hall

So I feel.

01:42:38 - 01:42:44

Emily L

Like having that kind of attitude, like, oh, nobody's won this, so it doesn't matter how good our lawyers are.

01:42:44 - 01:42:47

Emily L

Isn't necessarily the right way to look at it.

01:42:47 - 01:42:48

Emily L

A good lawyer is.

01:42:48 - 01:42:49

Worthington Town Hall

Literally everything.

01:42:49 - 01:42:51

Worthington Town Hall

That's not what I'm saying.

01:42:52 - 01:42:56

Worthington Town Hall

And I don't think that's what Bart said either, or certainly not what he meant.

01:42:56 - 01:42:58

Worthington Town Hall

What he says, nobody is winning these.

01:42:59 - 01:43:03

Worthington Town Hall

He's making a statement, not saying nobody's winning these.

01:43:03 - 01:43:05

Worthington Town Hall

Therefore, we should not try.

01:43:05 - 01:43:07

Worthington Town Hall

He's not saying that.

01:43:07 - 01:43:10

Worthington Town Hall

Regardless, I don't want to discuss this now, because it's really not appropriate.

01:43:10 - 01:43:11

Worthington Town Hall

It's not on the agenda.

01:43:11 - 01:43:13

Worthington Town Hall

But you're making a number of claims.

01:43:13 - 01:43:17

Worthington Town Hall

And if you're going to make this request, I suggest you back it up with some facts.

01:43:18 - 01:43:27

Worthington Town Hall

So when you talk about response times, strategic guidance, procedural issues, you need to give some examples and not now.

01:43:27 - 01:43:28

Emily L

Sure, okay.

01:43:29 - 01:43:37

Worthington Town Hall

So I would put all that in writing and present it to the planning board because I think, as I said, probably this request needs to come from them.

01:43:39 - 01:43:46

Worthington Town Hall

But regardless, we'll put it on the agenda for our next meeting and we can talk about it to the extent.

01:43:47 - 01:43:48

Worthington Town Hall

Is that fair?

01:43:51 - 01:43:53

Emily L

Yeah, I would love to talk about it further.

01:43:54 - 01:43:54

Emily L

Okay.

01:43:54 - 01:43:59

Worthington Town Hall

And then I guess you're trying to make a point about insurance here.

01:43:59 - 01:44:06

Worthington Town Hall

I'm trying to say at the time we'll get or need any additional coverage due to an increase of risk in town employees that will need to inspect the location.

01:44:07 - 01:44:14

Worthington Town Hall

In addition to the risk associated with an event of contamination fire or the decommissioning bond being underfunded as it is not covered.

01:44:17 - 01:44:20

Worthington Town Hall

Under the applicant's insurance.

01:44:23 - 01:44:25

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, I'm not sure how to respond to that.

01:44:26 - 01:44:37

Worthington Town Hall

So again, our insurance is liability insurance for things that the town might be essentially sued for and that sort of thing.

01:44:38 - 01:44:52

Worthington Town Hall

That's the kind of insurance we carry and to carry, you know, any increased risk to a town employee, I think to inspect something that's pretty marginal, and it's part of the package.

01:44:52 - 01:44:57

Worthington Town Hall

They look at our town employees and what their jobs are and assess the risk appropriately.

01:44:58 - 01:45:14

Worthington Town Hall

I know the planning board is certainly exploring what essentially the increase in town

headroom might be to properly inspect this facility in the or any other facilities like it in the future.

01:45:14 - 01:45:25

Worthington Town Hall

So in other words we may need increased time for the building inspector, fire inspector, electrical inspector and so forth or the ability to hire independent people if necessary for that sort of thing.

01:45:25 - 01:45:28

Worthington Town Hall

So I know the planning board is certainly exploring all of that.

01:45:32 - 01:45:36

Worthington Town Hall

So do you guys see anything?

01:45:36 - 01:45:43

Worthington Town Hall

No, I'm not concerned about insurance increases with respect to this little project.

01:45:44 - 01:45:48

Worthington Town Hall

Certainly something we can continue to look at as these things get hoser.

01:45:49 - 01:45:55

Worthington Town Hall

So, and then there's another comment here, right with the planning board deferred to the select board.

01:45:56 - 01:46:02

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, well, let me talk to Bart and we will bring this to our next meeting regardless.

01:46:03 - 01:46:03

Worthington Town Hall

Yeah.

01:46:03 - 01:46:12

Emily L

Charlie, I could, you were CC'd in the email where Bart mentioned that he would welcome a second opinion if it was provided by you guys.

01:46:12 - 01:46:16

Emily L

But what I could do is I could just send that to you again and.

01:46:16 - 01:46:17

Emily L

It'll be at the top of your inbox.

01:46:18 - 01:46:19

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, I appreciate it.

01:46:19 - 01:46:20

Worthington Town Hall

Thank you.

01:46:23 - 01:46:27

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, anybody else have anything they wanted to comment on before we close the meeting?

01:46:29 - 01:46:30

Worthington Town Hall

Okay, good.

01:46:30 - 01:46:31

Worthington Town Hall

We are adjourned.

01:46:32 - 01:46:32

Worthington Town Hall

Okay.

01:46:32 - 01:46:33

Worthington Town Hall

Thank you, everyone.

01:46:33 - 01:46:33

Worthington Town Hall

Good night.

01:46:33 - 01:46:34

Worthington Town Hall

Yep.

01:46:34 - 01:46:35

Mike Dondiego

Thank you, everybody.

01:46:35 - 01:46:35

Mike Dondiego

Take care.

01:46:36 - 01:46:37

Worthington Town Hall

You too, Mike.