

For immediate release Aug. 28, 2014

CITY RETIREES DEMAND COUNCIL PUT WATER & SEWERAGE DEPARTMENT SALE/TRANSFER ON BALLOT

Will attend Council session Fri. Aug 29 at 9 a.m.



The Detroit Retired and Active Employees Association (DAREA) and the WWTP Retirees demand that the City Council allow the PEOPLE to vote in the upcoming November election on any sale, lease, transfer, grant, or franchise of the Detroit Water & Sewerage Dept. proposed under the bankruptcy filed by Emergency Manager Kevyn Orr.

The City Charter clearly mandates a popular vote on

any such action. It is Detroiters who built and paid for DWSD.

DAREA and supporters will be at the City Council table Friday, Aug. 29 at 9 a.m. to present their demand: LET THE PEOPLE VOTE!!

The trial on the bankruptcy Plan of Adjustment is set to begin Sept. 2, 2014, after an 8:30 a.m. hearing on a lawsuit against water shut-offs in Detroit.

U.S. District Court Chief Judge Gerald Rosen and Judge Sean Cox have been conducting secret mediation sessions with DWSD bondholders. They want to change the governance, management and ownership of DWSD to profit bondholders and contractors. EM Orr, the Water Board, the City Council, and state government just voted to allow \$2.2 billion in DWSD bonds, originally “impaired” under the Plan of Adjustment, to be “unimpaired,” meaning the bondholders will be paid 100 percent instead of “pennies on the dollar.” Meanwhile, retirees and residents will suffer under the plan, from drastically reduced pensions, health care, services, more rate hikes, and shut-offs.

LET THE PEOPLE VOTE!

For further information, contact 313-444-0061 or 313-622-6430

DETROIT CITY CHARTER Water & Sewerage Dept.

Sec. 7-1204. Limitation on Sale of Assets.

The following limitations shall apply relative to water and sewerage:

1. The City shall not sell or in any way dispose of any property needed to continue the operation of any city-owned public utility furnishing water and sewerage service, unless approved by a majority of city voters voting on the question at a regular or special election.

2. The City shall not grant any public utility franchise for water and sewerage services which is not subject to revocation at the will of the City Council unless the proposition is first approved by three-fifths (3/5) of city voters voting on the question at a regular or special election.

3. All contracts, franchises, grants, leases or other forms of transfer in violation of this section shall be void and of no effect against the city.