

Washburn City Commission Special Meeting
Wednesday, September 27, 2017
5:00 p.m., City Hall

Commission members present: Thomas, Boehm, Jacobson and Kroll, via telephone.

Commissioner Thomas called the special meeting to order.

Commissioner Boehm informed the commission that he had requested the request for a security system for City Hall to be on the agenda in hopes that it could be expedited. Boehm then stated that there should be a motion to move for discussion. Commissioner Thomas informed that from his research of Roberts Rules of Order, items can be discussed without a motion and that he had looked it up online and that by doing it this way, a group does not have to deal with a bunch of motions that need to be retracted.

Motion to approve an estimate from Guardian Lock and Safe for \$5,478.00, Commissioner Jacobson and seconded by Commissioner Boehm. Discussion: Boehm explained the reason for the special meeting was due to employee concerns that were recently asked to the Auditor about how to handle any potential situations that may arise with Commissioner Thomas, during her absence. Commissioner Boehm read an email from the Auditor and afterward referenced the Washburn Human Resource manual that addresses rules of conduct, work place threat, and violence policy and continued that he felt it was very serious and needed to be addressed.

Commissioner Thomas stated that he has never come in and threatened anybody and that it was bogus.

He asked who the email was sent to, and pointed out that Commissioner Baumann and himself were not included in the email. Zimmerman replied that she had sent it to Human Resources and Commissioner Boehm, but that Deputy Auditor Hendrikson and she had discussions previously about concerns such as these, with the Human Resource Committee.

Commissioner Jacobson reminded Thomas that he and Commissioner Kroll had discussed this situation with Commissioner Thomas previously, then clarified that not the current situation had been discussed but about making sure things are handled properly. Thomas stated he did not threaten anyone and that topic is not what is currently being discussed. The topic of discussion was the security system.

Commissioner Jacobson stated that if this situation was not addressed it would leave the City open liability. Thomas stated that as he has said before he thinks this is a waste of money.

Boehm said that it is protection for all individuals who enter the building and a peace of mind. The security system was budgeted in 2018 but would like to expedite it to 2017. Addition of the security system is a good step forward.

Commissioner Kroll added via phone that it is not a situation of placing blame or a he said, she said situation, but a really good way so there are not accusations, but rather protection on both sides. Boehm added that it would solve that situation.

Thomas asked for a copy of the email sent by the Auditor.

Commissioner Boehm discussed three estimates that were requested of companies by the Deputy Auditor. Hendrikson noted that the estimate from Great Plains included a microphone system and added ability to use for meeting recording and uploading to the website. Boehm asked if a camera would be in the office and what the end goal of

addressing the request would be. He asked what the cost would be for an additional camera. Hendrikson said that there were a number of options on cameras and angles.

After discussion of the options offered by the companies, Commissioner Jacobson rescinded his motion for Guardian Lock, and Boehm rescinded his seconded.

Motion to approve the request from Great Plains Security Systems, Inc. for \$5,550.00, Boehm and seconded by Jacobson. Discussion: because it was prompted by the email from the Auditor, he wants to ensure that the individuals named in the email would feel comfortable with this remedy. He also asked what the process is if someone feels threatened what steps are taken and Jacobson clarified that they were not referring only to Commissioner Thomas, but any situation.

Commissioner Boehm asked Germundson, Hendrikson and Zimmerman if this addressed each of them individually if the security system addressed their current concerns. All agreed that it did.

Roll call: Aye, Jacobson, Boehm, Kroll, Nay, Thomas. Absent: Baumann. Motion carried.

Commissioner Boehm discussed that he has contacted Mahlum Goodhart regarding the 2016 Audit. Mahlum Goodhart advised that by the time we made our decision, they had already been booked and would not have taken us on again due to the damaged relationship between them and the City. Boehm advised he apologized on behalf of the City to help repair the relationship in the future. Zimmerman advised that the City does have to have any audit annually due to the bonds we have and the SEC regulations which are federal. Zimmerman advised that per Mike Manstrom the City signed a conditioning disclosure form which agreed we would do an annual audit.

Motion to select Widmer Roel to do the 2016 audit not to exceed \$18,000, Boehm and seconded by Kroll. Discussion: Boehm asked if Widmer Roel will have room to get us done this year. Zimmerman advised she will have to contact them and see if they can get us in. Jacobson asked if Mahlum Goodhart wouldn't take us no matter what? Boehm advised no, they said they don't have room for us, and if they did, they didn't plan on taking us due to the fractured relationship between them and the City. Boehm advised hopefully we can repair that relationship in the future. Zimmerman asked for clarification regarding with the fractured relationship, if it was the office? Boehm advised no, Mahlum Goodhart mentioned that it was with the President of the Commission. Boehm and Jacobson have both advised that they have not contacted them prior to this. Aye, Jacobson, Boehm, Kroll, Thomas. Nay, none. Absent: Baumann. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned

Joan Zimmerman, Auditor
City of Washburn

Larry Thomas, President
City of Washburn