

CITY OF WAUWATOSA

MEMORIAL CIVIC CENTER
7725 WEST NORTH AVENUE
Telephone: (414) 479-8917
Fax: (414) 479-8989

**BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, September 16, 2003 - 7:15 P.M.
Committee Room #2**

PRESENT: Alds. Bruderle-Baran, Casey, Grimm, Jenkins, Matthews, McCarthy, Stepaniak -7

EXCUSED: Alds. Subotich

ALSO PRESENT: Ald. Krol, Treis; T. Wontorek, City Admin.; A. Kesner, City Attorney; T. Otzelberger,
Mgr. Info. Sys.; J. Plass, Acctg. Mgr.

Ald. Stepaniak as Chair called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Proposed agreement with Government e-Management Solutions (GEMS)

Mr. Otzelberger said there is a sense of urgency in this matter. He explained that the city has used GEMS software (formerly called SCI) since 1997 for accounting and other applications. The software was originally supported by 3 different operating systems, Unisys, Microsoft NT, and MCP. In 2001, the company was bought out by Cass Information Systems and a decision was made to discontinue Unisys. In July, 2002, GEMS informed its customers that they will no longer support MCP and to continue using the software the city will have to migrate to Microsoft NT by December 31, 2003.

The initial proposal for the city to achieve this migration was \$197,000. Through meetings with GEMS the price was negotiated down to \$90,000 payable over 3 years with 0% interest. Mr. Otzelberger explained that GEMS will only agree to this only if the city commits this year.

Mr. Otzelberger said he is not asking for additional funding, but will be asking for a reallocation of already budgeted funds this year. He said there is money budgeted in 2004 and he will ask for the balance in the 2005 budget. If the city does not agree to migrate to the NT server the city risks running in an unsupported environment. The benefits to the city include the ability to take advantage of advanced features not available with the MCP server. It will also be easier to recruit technical staff because the Microsoft system is familiar. Responding to a question from the committee, Mr. Otzelberger said in addition to negotiating a lower price, there are some features that were eliminated or delayed. He said the annual maintenance fee will remain the same. Mr. Wontorek said the city will be required to make the first payment by November of this year. Committee members thanked Mr. Otzelberger for an excellent job of negotiating down the price.

Moved by Ald. McCarthy, seconded by Ald. Casey to recommend entering into an agreement with GEMS not to exceed \$90,000 over three years and waiving the competitive bidding process -7

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk
City of Wauwatosa

bw