



Legislation Text

File #: 14851, Version: 1

Fiscal Note

No appropriation required.

Title

Commending Richard (Dick) Grasmick for his contributions to the City of Madison on the occasion of his retirement as Director of Information Technology.

Body

WHEREAS, Richard (Dick) Grasmick is retiring from the City of Madison on June 5, 2009, after nearly 31 years of service; and

WHEREAS, Dick began his career in October, 1978, when he accepted the position of Data Center Manager, hired by then Data Processing Director Don Ramig, and succeeded Don as Director in May of 2003; and

WHEREAS, Dick's career with the City of Madison has seen him at the forefront of many significant technological advancements:

FROM: 1978

Mainframes
1800 bits per second
1100 line per minute mainframe printer
25 "dumb" terminals
13 copper data lines to 4 locations
Rotary dial phones
Wired data connections
100 million bytes of stored data
Polaroid cameras
Hormel SPAM
Sneaker net
Snail mail
Library
Encyclopedia Britannica
Spider Webs
One Data Center
Teach yourself
Data Processing Department

TO: 2009

Virtual servers
10 billion bits per second
75 page per minute multi-function devices
Over 2000 PC's and laptops
60 miles of fiber optic cable to 80 locations
IP telephones
Wireless data connections
35 trillion bytes stored data
5 mega-pixel surveillance cameras
Blocking 135,000 SPAM messages per day
Internet
E-mail
Google
Wikipedia
Web Sites
Three Data Centers
State of the Art Training Facility
Information Technology Department; and

WHEREAS, Dick's career with the City of Madison has seen him involved in many other changes, including but not limited to the outsourcing of the City Records Center to the State of Wisconsin; merger of City and County Health Departments; consolidating staff from three buildings and four floors into one floor in one building; improved cooperation with Dane County Information Management; and recently the hiring of a new director for the 911 Center; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his public service with the City of Madison, Dick also served in the United States Air Force for 9 years and the Wisconsin National Guard for 14 years retiring as a Chief Master Sergeant in 1991 for a total of 23 years of service; and

WHEREAS, Dick's love of the outdoors in all seasons, bicycling, skiing, canoeing, hunting, fishing gave him an appreciation of the responsibilities of stewardship of the land, and led to his term as Interim Superintendent of Parks in 2007-2008, a position in which he was more than just a caretaker, but a passionate leader; and

WHEREAS, Dick's professionalism, commitment, expertise, steady and thoughtful judgment has earned him respect and admiration of those lucky enough to have served with him; Dick did more than manage his staff, he mentored, lead, and encouraged people to grow; He took on a job, did it well, with total commitment and without complaint;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Madison thank Richard Grasmick for his many years of dedicated service to the City of Madison, its citizens and partners, and wish him continued success with all his future endeavors.