



Auditor
Charles E. Walder
Chief Fiscal Officer

May 5, 2021

John Oros, Executive Director
Geauga Park District
9160 Robinson Road
Chardon, OH 44024

Re: GPD Fiscal Officer (Treasurer) & ADP Services under ORC 307.846

Mr. Oros:

I am in receipt of your April 14, 2021 email (Exhibit 1) whereby you state that you would apprise me of actions of the Board of Park Commissioners approving the process of Geauga Park District's (GPD) separation from the County's fiscal and ADP services. While I received no notice from you of Park Board action, I have been recently informed by ADP that GPD has submitted for ADP approval, contract services for Black Box Network (Exhibit 2) and Windstream internet (Exhibit 3) services, totaling \$25,506.28 dated the same as your email.

I want to make you aware that, for security reasons, enabling these services will require ADP to terminate your existing internet, provided through the County. As such, the termination of County provided internet to the Park District would likewise terminate other services residing on that backbone. These services include VoIP telephones, Kaspersky Endpoint Security, Network System Monitoring, and EMail.

Additionally, once serviced through your new provider and severed from the County, the Park's network access to various County systems would need modification or they would no longer be reachable. Specifically of concern is the Park's access to New World. Agencies using New World that are not on the County's internet gain access through a secure VPN connection into our system. This VPN connection has licensing and other costs associated with it.

To provide your Board with transparency, please be advised that historically, GPD has paid the County approximately \$30,000.00 annually for IT services and \$0.00 annually for fiscal services. From my perspective as the County's Chief Fiscal Officer and the Administrator of ADP, I believe that the transition and ongoing costs to GPD in separating from the County will be staggering. The costs associated with an accounting system, email server, VoIP system, internet, WiFi, and the necessary staff will at

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minimum be six (6) figures annually and possibly seven (7) figures. While the economy in Geauga is currently healthy, this unnecessary expense, being done simply avoid my statutory oversight, will be unfair and an unnecessarily burden to Geauga taxpayers. These funds should be spent directly on our Parks.

That being said, if the Board elects to embark on this process, I strongly recommend that the Park District develop, communicate, and implement a logical methodology of transition rather than the piece meal approach that appears to be taking place.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Walder', written in a cursive style.

Charles E. Walder
Geauga County Auditor, Secretary & Administrator ADP

Cc: DoIT
file