

Council Member Steele said she was under the understanding that someone else needs to conduct the investigation.

Walt Leonard said one thing the Council may need to be aware of is this may need to be referred to the Texas Municipal League. He said this is typically in his 40 years will often lead to litigation and if so they probably need to warn the risk pool that they is a potential for litigation and see what they wish to do in this particular case and what their recommendations are.

Mayor Hunter said he would like this investigated and the outcome brought to the City Council

Joe Polino said he had a question for Chief Holzschuh. He asked Chief Holzschuh has he ever done a criminal investigation and a hostile work environment in this nature.

Chief Holzschuh said no. He said he must admit that he has never investigated the City Administrator complaining against a Council Member. He said this is something he has never acknowledged before. He said he has over 12 years investigating internal affairs complaints if that mean anything.

Joe Polino said this is not an internal affairs. He said this is a very specific hostile work environment in which he has submitted a five (5) page letter to the Council and the Mayor. He said again Councilman Parnell where he was going with someone with experience in investigating a hostile work environment.

Councilman Parnell said not that he has lack of confidence in the Chief's ability to investigate or your fairness. He said he thinks this is labor related and since we aren't an employment agency we could ourselves get in difficultly if we don't take this seriously.

Councilman Basham asked if the suggestion with Walt Leonard saying to talk with TML and see who they would suggest we hire as an outside investigator and leave that in the Chief's hands to go ahead and move forward so that this doesn't languish. He asked if that would be appropriate.

Walt Leonard said that would be a very good idea because they are our insures and they may be involved in litigation defense one way or the other. He said they may even have a recommendation or they might do some of the work themselves.

Councilman Basham asked if it would be appropriate to give the Mayor authority to sign off on moving forward on whatever the TML recommendation is if it's reasonable.

Councilman Parnell said if it meets with the Council approval.

Walt Leonard said with the caveat that the Council be kept informed and maybe bring it back to the Council at the next meeting.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Basham that Mayor Hunter reach out to TML and get a recommendation from them on who we bring in to investigate and Mayor Hunter can execute that with Council approval.

Walt Leonard said they may do is hand this to one of their attorneys then he would recommend them based on his analyst. He said this would probably take a little bit of time.

Mayor Hunter said so that would separate the criminal away from the HR case.

Walt Leonard said yes and that would be better from a litigation point of view.

Motion was seconded by Council Member Steele, motion carried 5-0.

Zachary Stokes said this gets back to the same thing he discussed in Citizen Presentation. He said when you all were investigating Bonnie Black – Councilman Basham made a very big issue about her having any vote with anything having to do with that investigation and now he just put himself up to make the motion and vote on it – like he said this man has double standards and the double standards are crap.

Walt Lenoard said the same argument could be made as before but since they are talking about taking it to a third party – TML that probably neutralizes some of the problems in terms of conflict. You are handing it to someone else and asking them to tell us what to do. He said if Mr. Basham wishes to have someone else make the motion .

Councilman Basham said he is good either way. He said he was just taking Walt Leonard's recommendation – it really wasn't his .

Shelli Swift said aren't we doing what we said we weren't going to do. She said we aren't going to discuss this in public – now they all know what is going on.

Walt Lenoard said no one is talking about details or specific allegations only generically. He said if it is a civil matter the civil portion can be discussed in public. If it criminal complains that is something we possible need to keep it in the Police Department or whoever is handling it.

## 8. Adjourn

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Basham to adjourn at 8:03 p.m. Motion was seconded by Council Member Trammell, motion carried 5-0.

**APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF RENO, PARKER COUNTY, TEXAS THIS  
20th Day of November, 2017.**

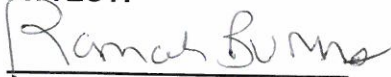


**Eric Hunter  
Mayor**

CITY SEAL:



**ATTEST:**



**Ramah Burns  
City Secretary**