2026-08-18 - City of Mount Pleasant - City Council Meeting (Hunter Bonner)

Mayor Wesley Lyon II
00:02
That is on the agenda. The council will discuss the topic on the agenda at that time. The topic is discussed and deliberative. Do we have any public comment? Just state your name and sit your account.

Hunter Bonner
00:24
Good evening, Mr. Mayor, members of the council. My name is Hunter Bonner. I'm an IT professional.

00:29
I own my own IT company and I reside in Lone Star, Texas. In June of 2026, Assistant City Manager Candias Webster contacted me and stated that two internet fiber circuits for the city had been renewed and that the authorization showed my name in the e-signature field. I stated immediately that I have not signed any contracts on behalf of the City of Mount Pleasant and that I haven't been involved in IT operations here in seven years.

00:55
I immediately asked what email address was associated with those renewals. The email address that she provided from the paper showed that it was not mine, it was blatantly fraudulent, and again, I stated it wasn't mine. However, Mrs. Webster immediately followed up with the following, quote, "You are not aware of anyone using your email address and name to renew internet contracts."

01:17
Council members, such a question after an immediate denial can only be interpreted one way. She did not believe me. Now I want to state emphatically before all of you tonight and in the presence of these witnesses, I never signed those contracts and I'm willing to make that statement under oath.

01:35
When I asked to see the information she was referencing, I was told to file a public information request, which I did that same day. I did this despite the fact that there was clearly enough information gathered to prompt a phone call from the City. The PIR also reveals communications that the prevailing narrative is that I did this when in fact I did not.

01:55
And I also find it surprising that to date, there has been no apology offered to me or my

company by Assistant City Manager Candias Webster or any member of the Mount Pleasant City staff, which brings us to a larger issue, that being cybersecurity or a lack thereof. When I left in December of 2019, I instructed the city's former IT provider to remove me from all vendor accounts, and yet for several years I continued receiving communications intended for the City. It is clear that after seven years and two IT vendors later that that process was never fully completed.

02:29

That is a major cybersecurity failure any way you look at it. Every member of this council and the taxpayers of this city should be concerned. Your current vendor relationships and authorization records should be removed immediately, especially for your law enforcement systems where CJIS compliance carries state and federal implications.

02:47

I have since filed fraud reports with three law enforcement agencies including the Mount Pleasant Police Department and placed fraud alerts with all three major credit bureaus because my identity was used without my authorization. I encourage this council to request a full review of how this occurred and how to prevent it from happening again. Because really it's quite simple. If this happened to me after seven years, the real question is what other cybersecurity vulnerabilities remain undiscovered for this city? Thank you for your time.

Mayor Wesley Lyon II

03:15

Thank you.