



CITY OF MANITOWOC

WISCONSIN, USA

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March 13, 2024

TO: Members of the Finance Committee

FROM: Eric Nycz, City Attorney

Re: Proposed Revision to MMC 26.030

Issue Presented

Wisconsin Statute 755.03 requires municipal judges to take and file an oath and, if required by the municipality, execute and file a bond. If the municipality does not require the bond, it must have specific insurance coverage in lieu of said bond. Manitowoc Municipal Code (“MMC”) 26.030 currently requires this bond. Our code is outdated and we recommend updating it.

Proposed Solution

The Wisconsin statutes used to require the bond, but 2017 Wisconsin Act 51 changed the law to give municipalities the option to use insurance instead. The City of Manitowoc carries the specific, required insurance anyway, and I suspect it has been doing so for many years, so the bond requirement is simply an expense that provides the City no value. Approving the requested change will save the City a nominal biannual fee that provides no benefit to the City. Thank you for your consideration.

CITY ATTORNEY ERIC NYCZ

CITY HALL ■ 900 QUAY STREET ■ MANITOWOC, WI 54220
PHONE: (920) 686-6990 ■ EMAIL: CITYATTORNEY@MANITOWOC.ORG