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City lashed by another wild night

- ALBANY was treated to its third spectacular light show in as many weeks on Tuesday night.
- THE storm which lashed much of the State's southern half dumped rain and hail on the city.
- THIS picture captured by Aysemart's David Belfield shows two lightning strikes over Torndirrup.



Termination talks sparked walk-out

By WAYNE HARRINGTON
managing editor



SACKED City of Albany CEO Paul Richards was already aware his Council was gunning for him when he walked out last month.

An email obtained by the *Albany Weekender* reveals Mr Richards learned there had been talks between Mayor Milton Evans and senior City staff and at least one Councillor.

In the email to the Mayor on March

10, Mr Richards explains he had discovered discussions were held to plan a meeting with Perth lawyers and "re-search a defence to OHS claims that may be presented by me against the City and to review a general defence

to any issues I may raise".

"Milton I have to inform you that there is no Council resolution to seek legal advice and that instructing staff is well beyond your remit as Mayor," he wrote.

"I further believe that as my employer the City is trying to make my life so difficult that I have no option but to resign."

The contents of the email are at odds with the City's repeated claims

that Mr Richards instigated moves to terminate his contract.

Mr Richards claims in his email that the Mayor ignored repeated requests for assistance.

"I have not received any replies from you and again there has been no noticeable improvement in my work environment over a 15 month period," he wrote.

"All the details of my complaints are recorded in the SynergySoft system used at the City of Albany."

Continued on page 6.

The actions appear to show a breakdown in our work relationship as required by the Act. Milton I have to inform you that there is no Council resolution to seek legal advice and that instructing staff is well beyond your remit as Mayor.

- Exerpt from Paul Richards' email to Mayor Milton Evans, March 10.

WEEKEND WEATHER

Friday: Showers 20C

Saturday: Clearing 21C

Sunday: Cloudy 23C

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