

Date: Wed, 25 Jan 2023 22:29:35 -0500
From: Greg Alexander <btopgreg@galexander.org>
To: Stephen Lucas <lucass@bloomington.in.gov>
Subject: A few notes about the recent kerfluffle

Hi Mr. Lucas -

I wanted to send you a few notes since I think a lot of this labor will land in your lap:

I wanted to thank you for all the help you have been to me in my many presentations before the council.

I apologize for the work this drama creates for you. I decided to use drama as a tool to make a political point, but I regret making a headache for people like you.

I want you to know I do not intend to procedurally challenge whatever measure you come up with to un-appoint me. I have no idea what struggle you face on that front but just in good faith I want you to know I do not doubt the authority of the council to un-appoint me and I promise to you personally that I will not challenge that authority.

On the other hand, I will not resign. Creating the spectacle of the council kowtowing to Elm Heights' petty outrage is the purpose of my conduct.

And I can't imagine it will come to that but just to be clear, if the council does try to remove my ability to participate in public comment as an unaffiliated member of the public, I will challenge that strenuously.

And just in case it interests you, I am attaching below my signature line here the email that I just sent to President Sgamebelluri, which provides links to most of the exhibits mentioned in public comment today, to remove ambiguity about what I said, and to add context.

Thanks!
- Greg

--- letter to President Sgambelluri ---

Hi council president Sgambelluri -

I don't envy you the decisions you will have to make, and drama you will

preside over. I also do not resent the possibility of being removed from the traffic commission. I am there to get work done and this confrontation with Elm Heights already damaged that work before I came up with the brilliant(?) idea of being a lightning rod for their bullying.

I think you will benefit from a basic knowledge of what has gone on, and to that end I wanted to share some of my communications that were mentioned from the podium tonight.

This is the letter I wrote to Bess Lee (sorry that it is missing the signature line, it is an inadvertent and insubstantial omission):

<http://galexander.org/x/IMG20230119163316.jpg>

This is the thread where I accused Cm. Piedmont-Smith of cowardice, and Natalia Galvan took the opportunity to initiate contact with me and insult me as a way of saying "hello":

<https://twitter.com/GregAlexander8/status/1588022523899383808>

It shows the rough-and-tumble nature of twitter debate. It shows that I am not uniquely aggressive in that forum. And it shows that litigating this sort of stuff is tedious as hell. To be clear, I am not calling into question Ms. Galvan's appointment on the Board of Public Safety.

Here's a great thread of a conversation between me and Regina Moore, where she also initiates contact with me in order to insult me:

<https://twitter.com/clerkmoore/status/1588259739640922114>

Scroll up to see me criticize the process by which Ms. Hatton was given so much deference by the council (though I did not name her!). Scroll down to see the exchange where Regina Moore described the city "punching through" her neighborhood, and I replied with a series of synonyms for "punching through" to goad her into admitting that she was using such vicious language to describe a greenway. "savagely penetrate", "ram through", "piercing". Yes, I enjoyed that one, getting a retired city official to admit she was hyperventilating about, of all things, a greenway.

It's worth noting that in all of my many tweets on the subject, I've never mentioned Ms. Hatton by name:

https://twitter.com/search?q=hatton%20from%3Agregalexander8&src=typed_query

FWIW, I do not delete tweets (Ms. Hatton was mistaken when she said that I had).

And here's one you'll really enjoy:

<https://twitter.com/GregAlexander8/status/1603807305245638660>

Sorry to bring an insult aimed at your position, but semantically that's content I've covered repeatedly at the council. When you guys prioritize one neighborhood over all others in the city, you make it extremely difficult for anyone who wants to organize. Surely you knew such conduct by the council would engender resentment outside of Elm Heights?

I also graphically accused "bloomington democrats" of brown nosing in Elm Heights:

<https://twitter.com/GregAlexander8/status/1592883056964440064>

And yeah, I suggested I'd monitor the new stop sign:

<https://twitter.com/GregAlexander8/status/1588993433037078529>

And you know I really might, because I've gone and monitored traffic at stop signs all over the city already, for example:

<https://twitter.com/GregAlexander8/status/1582730030211563522>

Anyways, I just thought you shouldn't move forward without knowing what I'm guilty of. To be quite honest, I always strive for some basic level of decorum and tact when addressing the council, and I don't mind other people using their limited public comment minutes to give my more frank moments a little air. I hope you recognize that, outside of Democrat insider circles, this spectacle looks different than it does inside of them.

Thanks,
- Greg