

BLUE FOLDER ITEM

Blue folder items are additional back up material to administrative reports and/or public comments received after the printing and distribution of the agenda packet for receive and file.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING May 12, 2020

J.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

Khatirah Nazif

From: Khatirah Nazif
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:22 AM
To: Khatirah Nazif
Subject: FW: Public Comments On Non-Agenda Items. J.1

-----Original Message-----

From: Barbara Epstein <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 5:49 PM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@redondo.org>; Bill Brand <Bill.Brand@redondo.org>; Todd Loewenstein <Todd.Loewenstein@redondo.org>; Nils Nehrenheim <Nils.Nehrenheim@redondo.org>; Christian Horvath <Christian.Horvath@redondo.org>; John Gran <John.Gran@redondo.org>; Laura Emdee <Laura.Emdee@redondo.org>; Joe Hoefgen <Joe.Hoefgen@redondo.org>; Michael Webb <Michael.Webb@redondo.org>; Steven Diels <Steven.Diels@redondo.org>; John La Rock <John.LaRock@redondo.org>; Brandy Forbes <Brandy.Forbes@redondo.org>; ted.semaan@redondobeach.org
Subject: Public Comments On Non-Agenda Items. J.1

[City Logo] ATTN: Email is from an external source; Stop, Look, and Think before opening attachments or links.

Dear Mrs. Manzano,

Thank you and your kind assistant, Ms. Kroneberger, for relaying my letter to all city officials who may not be properly listed above. I could not find the address for the Assistant City Manager, for example.

I am requesting that my letter be in the public record, available for reference in the future.

I also ask that my comments be read aloud at the City Council Meeting tomorrow night, if possible. I agree with Mayor Brand that the public's input is very important for the city and the viewing public to hear.

J1. Comments:

Dear Mayor Brand, Council, and City Officials,

We record every Council Meeting to view later.

We were watching our saved meeting from April 28, when we heard something very unusual. City Manager Hoefgen stated that he would not ask City Staff to be present at the Budget and Finance Commission Meeting this month. In light of the extreme urgency of our city's financial situation, and the importance of preparing for the upcoming budget report, we thought this refusal a very unwise proposal. It takes everyone, working together, to minimize the financial danger we are in.

The discussion that followed made it clear that our city politics have gotten so completely out of hand that something has to be done immediately to put things right.

Later in the same hour, Councilman Nehrenheim suggested that, in light of some information he had apparently received, it would be a good idea to have persons doing business with the city be asked to fill out a form disclosing possible conflicts of interest.

We thought that was a very good idea, and in the interest of good government for the people of Redondo Beach.

For Councilman Horvath to dismiss this suggestion as the result of something, in his view, that was going around on social media, made no sense to us watching at home. Whether or not it came from social media, Councilman Nehrenheim's proposal still makes good public policy.

For Councilman Gran and Councilwoman Emdee to also dismiss establishing healthy transparency for the city's dealings is unacceptable to us. They gave no explanation whatsoever, leaving viewers in the dark as why they voted "no."

It has become obvious to us that the present council majority all too often uses its majority as a weapon against the minority and against the best interests of the people of Redondo Beach.

I therefore request, once again, that the City form a task force to create a City Code Of Honor.

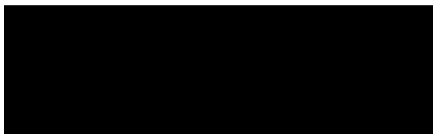
I am happy to meet with our City Attorney to brainstorm ideas.

I also request that the City engage the services of a professional in the field of conflict resolution right away.

Our city has too many heavy burdens to carry without enduring destructive, on-going political baggage and warfare to weigh us down.

Thank You For Your Attention

Barbara and Jack Epstein



Sent from my iPad