

From: Jack Van Nada  
To: Laurel Prevetti  
Cc:  
Subject: For today's Finance Committee meeting Item 2  
Date: Monday, June 8, 2020 2:45 PM

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## Finance Committee Meeting 6-8-20 Item 2.

I am one of the co-sponsors of the Finance Commission Initiative.

To provide the public with a little background, I would like them to know that Mr. Keon and I asked for a meeting with the Town's Manager and Assistant manager to **discuss any concerns or comments** they would like to address before we had to go the initiative route. That was September 27<sup>th</sup> of 2019. The meeting ended in less than five minutes when we were told they had concerns, but no comments.

Next, in a Council meeting when the Council was inches away from adopting the initiative, Councilmember Jensen told us that she wanted us to get the signatures of the voters. So we did. Over 3000 signatures in 6 weeks. The citizens spoke and now the initiative is on the ballot for November 3, 2020.

I don't understand the staff's desire to now want to discuss this. Once the initiative has the signatures and all has been approved, the Council is getting the election they asked for. We endorse that decision unless they decide to adopt it very soon. That would save the town \$50,000.

I would like to ask:

- 1) What is the objective of this meeting?
- 2) What is to happen as a result of this meeting?
- 3) Why has staff waited this long to discuss potential changes to the FC charter?
- 4) Why has staff never engaged with the parties who created the initiative?
- 5) All of this may have been avoidable had the staff been willing to logically discuss our concerns before we had to take the initiative route.

What we do know is that without an initiative, the Council can kill the FC at any time. The initiative **prevents the removal** of the Finance Committee without a **vote of the people**. Please recall that this Finance Commission is strictly advisory to the Council. It could be an even bigger asset to the staff than they now provide with additional members and duties. It is my hope that the Finance Committee advises the Council to adopt the Finance Commission initiative.

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*Jak Van Nada -*

*Los Gatos Community Alliance*

*Facts Matter; Transparency Matters; Honesty Matters*