

April 29, 2025

City of Millwood  
City of Millwood Council  
9103 E Frederick Ave  
Spokane, WA 99206

Dear Millwood Staff & Council:

The Millwood Neighborhood Advocates are signing this letter that LaDonna DeMent already sent to you, because as a group, we are in agreement. A few edits have been made.

We are writing this letter today regarding the latest Audit that found the City of Millwood lacked adequate oversight to ensure credit card disbursements were for allowable public purposes. This oversight resulted in a loss of public funds. It also stated that the Mayor and City Treasurer oversee the City's daily operations, maintain financial records, prepare the annual financial reports, and oversee disbursements.

To us, the biggest finding is that Mayor Freeman used the credit card more than once for personal use. He stated it was in error. If an error, most people make that mistake once! After that, you would make sure it didn't happen again. If we read it correctly, the balance of the funds were paid back in February 2025. These were public funds and not for the use by the Mayor. Plus it stated that 67 other purchases which came to an amount over \$7,000 were questionable and they lacked adequate receipts for business purposes. In many businesses, these would be fireable offenses.

For now, the City Council should reconsider their vote to allow the Mayor to have a \$50,000 spending budget without the council's approval. He has proven not to be trustworthy.

We, a small group of citizens in Millwood started attending more council meetings (and planning meetings) over the past year and a half or so, because we want more transparency and want our voice heard regarding plans for our small and charming community. This audit finding is NOT a good thing for our city!

You did announce at the April City Council meeting that you could not notify the citizens of this before the media found out, because as soon as the finalized audit was released, the Media picked up on it and aired their story on the news and on social media right away. We appreciate that you explained this to us. We also appreciate that you announced in the April City Council Meeting that you are having a third party investigation into this matter.

Sincerely,

The Millwood Neighborhood Advocates

Signatures Attached

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