

November 23, 2020

An Open Letter to Mayor Scott Anderson, and the City of Stevenson, Council:

It is with high importance and utmost sincerity that we submit this letter in regards to a member of the City of Stevenson Council who, since first taking seat, and by any common person's estimation, maliciously sought to tarnish the reputation of our great community and willfully brought undue harm to the citizens and businesses that reside here.

Among the council members who sought election to serve their constituents is an individual who bears no apparent knowledge of the ethics and morals associated with service as an elected official in a small town.

As we understand it, based on comments from recent council meetings, he has represented himself as a council member, although the content of the letter he drafted was designed to be a personal attack on the Mayor and his fellow council members.

As we understand it, he may be being sued by a fellow council member for committing a written comment to the City's YouTube Channel; and that this comment was not only defamatory but potentially libelous. This lawsuit will likely cost the city staff and city attorney time, thus the taxpayers money.

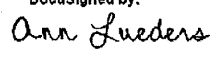
As many of us have personally witnessed and as most likely is enshrined on local social media pages, he has commented or remarked inappropriately on many public business and community pages, again without clarifying they were personal comments as opposed to the collective opinion of the council. These comments include what can clearly be considered veiled hope that community members would suffer harm or loss, insinuations that the city and the county (Skamania) residents were uneducated and "deserved what they get."


It does appear that Matt Knudsen has created a situation among the city council, and within our community that is near a tipping point. His snide, rude, unethical and immoral commentaries are only adding to the angst felt by many in our small community. His comments, which are so front and center and most vociferous on public facing pages could lead to real harm to our businesses, if they have not already done so.

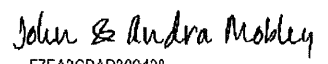
It is with this in mind that we ask the city council to do what they can to silence Matt Knudsen. We formally request that the council censure Matt Knudsen and frankly, make a censure at each meeting of the council until such time the electorate can get him recalled from office or his term expires.

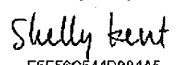
With Respect,

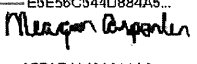
Business Owners within the City of Stevenson

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 12/1/2020

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With Respect,
Business Owners within the City of Stevenson

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X DocuSigned by: Mary Lou Bennett _____ 12/1/2020

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