

Saturday, April 12, 2008

## Open letter to the City of Lake Worth

Newspaper articles, as well as general word of mouth, point out that our city is in financial trouble. Employee and resident morale in Lake Worth is very low in part by the lack of concern from city administrators. The new budget indicates significant cuts of lower level employees, the ones on the front lines doing the work, while inaccessible high price administrators continue to thrive.

As a resident of the City of Lake Worth there are some valid questions requiring answers. Some meaningful feedback to this email would be in order.

1. **WHY** do city officials including the office of the commissioners, city manager and department administrators, serve our citizenry demonstrate a lack of concern, with a pompous attitude of not having to answer resident queries or complaints?
2. **WHY** does the city under commissioner approval continue to give away property owned by the city (not the commissioners) than turn around and rent from private corporations property for city use. (One case in point the Senior Citizens Building leased out for pennies and than the city rents the lower part of the adjacent building for \$5000.00 a month.)
3. **WHY** are the Interim City manager and department administrators allowed to enter into agreements without commissioner approval that could have long term and costly effects to the city?
4. **WHY** does the city feel the need to hire outside consultants when local Lake Worth consultants might give an assessment FREE or discounted? **Here's a free one** ~ cut the use of license fees from Microsoft and when ordering new computers from Dell leave off the optional MS Office Suite. The use of Open Source software will save money! There is a list of comparable programs the city uses here: <http://www.lakeworthfl.net/os.htm>.
5. **WHY** did a three month contract with M.T. Causley for over \$400,000 ever get approved? Has anyone calculated the monetary loss that sweetheart deal passed on to the taxpayers?
6. **WHY** didn't anyone follow through with a response to a signed complaint filed by myself via email on 02/12/08? Was anything done regarding the complaint about the code supervisor~ Third request? If so wouldn't a policy of good interaction dictate you be so kind as to inform the complainant of the result.
7. **WHY** does the city spend so much money on the furnishings for administrators? If this city is in dire straits financially why spend so much money on office décor. It's only a thought, but the city hires and pays these administrators a lot of money for what they should know not how well they look sitting behind an expensive desk with matching credenza.

It is not my intention to speak for all the residents of Lake Worth, but there is a cynical wave regarding administration policy in this city on more issues than can be addressed in one page.

I am absolutely disgusted with the lack of responsible management by this administration of the City of Lake Worth's economic issues leaving the residents to pay the consequence for the outcome of inept decision making policies.

Cordially,

Robert Helta

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