

I want to take a minute and respond to something that happened at our last council meeting.

During our conversations regarding who would become our next Council President, a false accusation was made against me by Councilor Spoon. I stand by my assertion that it was a false accusation. I did not invite councilor Spoon to a strip club, and I did not take the city van there. Any extra-curricular activities that I did participate in outside of the conference, on my own time, I used an Uber to get to. I took the responsibility of driving the city owned van very seriously.

I believe that the accusation was made in retaliation for my unwillingness to be manipulated into a decision that Councilor Spoon wanted me to make. I received a phone call earlier that day asking me to vote for Councilor Parker as our new council president. She told me she “didn’t want our council meeting to turn ugly, but if I didn’t vote for Parker it would.” I was also told that “If I decide to vote for Parker, she will nominate me for Chair of the Urban Renewal Agency.” This is called Quid-Pro-Quo, or a favor for a favor. Arguments can be made whether that is legal or not, but one thing I can promise you based on advice from my attorney and the Oregon Ethics Commission is that it is definitely unethical, it is dirty politics, and I didn’t want any part of that.

I mentioned at the last meeting that I am not here for the status of being a city councilor. I am not here to make friends or win a popularity contest. I am here to do what is best for the residents of the Canby and I refuse to be manipulated and bullied. I urge all our councilors to dig deep and really consider the reasons why you serve on this council. If it is to play partisan political games, you should reconsider.

Councilor Spoon has engaged in these games too many times. What she did was despicable, detestable and unconscionable. It has shed negative light upon me, upon my family and upon the city of Canby. It proves that she is unfit and undeserving of the position that she holds. Tonight, I am urging Councilor Spoon to do the right thing by retracting her false statement and resign her position on city council.

Lastly, I want to thank everyone who has reached out to me regarding this. It means a lot to me to have all of your support against something so divisive and disgusting.