

City Council:

It pains me to be saying these words, but as of September 20, 2024 I am no longer your Treasurer/Collector. I have received a job offer from another company that I have accepted. I never intended to leave the City of Greenfield but the current administration has made it impossible to stay. It does not value or respect the employees who are here working hard every day and doing what is right for the City of Greenfield and its residents.

This Mayor bullies and forces her will onto anyone who challenges her because after all she is the Mayor and she can, and will do whatever she wants as she has made abundantly clear to me and many other members of the staff here within the City. She asks for our opinions and advice because after all, we have more experience and knowledge than her, but if it's not what she wants to hear it is disregarded. We have no power, if we try to go against her we are punished, we do not operate as a team, it is a dictatorship.

The lack of transparency by this administration is alarming. For someone who preached transparency and fiscal conservancy in her campaign her actions are very contradictory. I am afraid for the City under her control, spending without plans of how to fund unbudgeted expenditures, handing out raises to anyone who asks for them regardless of the merit and using one time funding sources to fund operations is not sustainable as she has been told over and over by the former Finance Director, the City Accountant, myself and the State.

All of these things have created a toxic work environment. A place where saying no could cost you your job is the reason many of us are leaving. All of us that are leaving are being replaced with people who have no municipal experience and are not really qualified to be doing the jobs they are being placed in.

To date there is no replacement for myself or my staff, who also gave their notices shortly after they found out I was resigning. No one bothered to spend much time training with myself or my staff to be able to keep the operations of the Treasurer/Collector's office going. The current Finance Director was named as interim Treasurer but spent zero time actually learning my job. I left all the work in my office up to date, processes documented along with a list of tasks and their due dates. Unfortunately I don't think that will be enough. I would be very concerned if I were in your shoes.

You have lost (or soon will lose) key positions in the City, a Procurement Officer, Finance Director, DPW Deputy Director, City Accountant, DPW Field Superintendent, Chief of Staff, Treasurer/Collector, 2 Collection Clerks, the Mayor's Executive Assistant and a Communications Director. I would bet there will be more to come. The reasons we are all leaving are all the same.

I have put my heart and soul into my position to keep moving Greenfield forward. I am one of the most respected people in my position in the state, the City's loss will certainly be someone else's gain. Again, this is not what I wanted, I never wanted to leave Greenfield, I planned on spending my career here because I care about this City. There is no other reason than the Mayor, that I am leaving. I will not allow myself to be disrespected and micromanaged. I love my co-workers, I love my job and I love my City but I also love myself enough to know when I deserve better and I need to move on.

Respectfully

Kelly Varner