

## July 20th Council Meeting Summary

July 20<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting Summary and a little something about getting out and voting on August 4<sup>th</sup> for the St. Clair Shores primary.

As you have seen STRAW had given all the candidates a chance to respond to a very simple questionnaire dealing with issues various residents had which dealt with our very own city government. There were a few candidates that did not respond, which only brings up the question of why wouldn't someone answer back even when a self-stamped envelope was included along with free advertisement on this website which has a very high flow of resident traffic?

This brings us back to the July 20<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting for the point we all want to make when a resident spoke in front of council. It is not the first time that the threat of the Police was cast upon the residents when the Mayor feels threatened by the Truth!

It was simply stated that:

1. There is a 4-3 vote on council referring to the 4 as: Ahearn, Hison, Frederick, and McFayden and the 3 as: Moffit, Walby, and Rubello. "When the buck stops at council" as mentioned by Councilman Frederick he indicates that the 4 have ruled in favor of no-bid contract extensions which have cost the taxpayers of St. Clair Shores millions of dollars, not to mention a nightmare for Public Relations for the image of the city. These "unruly and misleading" residents of the Shores that they speak about; have only major concerns to the receivership status this city will be in the couple of years.

We are spending more then we are taking in. We have a \$2,500,000 shortfall this year and it is only going to get worst financially and most certainly politically if we do not change that 4-3 vote.

2. There are city contracts that allow for certain individuals to increase their formula so they can retire making more than they were when they are working. The AR-4 contract is one of them, which is an agreement between city department heads and the city (the taxpayer) was brought up to make change from the top down. Ahearn mentioned that it was used to pander votes in an election year when he and Fredericks both voted no to open the agreement and renegotiate. Again the concern is to save and be stewards for the taxpayers of St. Clair Shores.

3. Finally, there was a letter sent to our City Manager from a resident asking about the recent insurance bid and the letter was heard word for word back to Council stating that the City Manager replied that there were no bids taken and that the rules of purchasing do not apply. Fortunately, the taxpayers saved on

this contract because the other insurance company proposed a substantial lower cost, so the same vendor we had did the same but also charged us a much higher cost over the years. Unfortunately, the way we did it will not entice or help any other "bidder" for doing the same in the future which will hurt us very bad.

The primary on August 4<sup>th</sup> and the election on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November are very important if anyone wants to change what is going on in the city. Know your candidate, look-up how they vote, and ask the question to yourself: Is this person a steward to my tax dollars?

The resident, not the Mayor, spoke the Truth and the Facts that were told at the council meeting