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To Members of City Council:

The Mayor has proposed the following for the April 24th Council meeting:

SECTION ONE: City Council authorizes the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Henne's Communications to provide crisis communications and public relations and related services for a three (3) year term and the Finance Director to make payment to this firm for services provided through the established purchase order process.

SECTION TWO: Green City Council authorizes the appropriation of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to the Contracted Services Account (acct #100-1200-52412) from the unappropriated balance of the General Fund.

I am recommending that Council members VOTE AGAINST its passage because:

We are already paying the Communications Director an annual salary of \$80,000 (I assume plus benefits) with an additional budget for more help for another almost \$40,000. That's \$120,000+ – MORE THAN WAS SPENT ON FIGHTING NEXUS!!! So NOW the Mayor wants to hire more help?

The citizens deserve answers to these questions before embarking on another disastrous action that only increases citizen outrage!

- 1) Why should tax payer money be used to fight against community outrage and citizen initiatives?**
- 2) Why should tax payer money be used, similar to campaign funds, to help the reputation of those who may be running for re-election?**

- 3) In the event of a crisis, wouldn't Nexus be the ones who would need to deploy an additional PR firm?
- 4) How about spending tax payer money on items that would help the city's reputation like safety buffers, odor additives, automatic shut off valves, and admitting that major mistakes were made in the handling of the Nexus fiasco??
- 5) Is the \$50,000 the total outlay for THREE years or is that \$50,000 for EACH of THREE YEARS? By my calculation, that about covers the Mayor's remaining time in office. Interesting.
- 6) Finally, if our Communications Director is not up to the task, hire someone FROM THE CITY OF GREEN who IS familiar with the needs of the citizens and the community rather than a firm whose presence will only increase citizen distrust of the current administration.

If you add that \$50,000 per year to the current budgeted amount for "Communications" that's almost a QUARTER OF A MILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY!!! Money would be better spent paying those residents who have to have their wells tested (out further than 150 feet due to HDD) or are facing property devaluation due to the Nexus deal!!

Respectfully,

Green M Kabb-Layke
Ellen J. Layke