




James R. Fouts - Mayor

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M E M O

TO: Council Members Pat Green and Melinda Moore

FROM: Mayor Jim Fouts 

DATE: December 17, 2019

SUBJECT: **December 10 City Council Meeting**

At the December 10, 2019 city council meeting, I was very disturbed by your treatment of city attorney Ethan Vinson.

Ms. Moore insulted and degraded Mr. Vinson to the point that she said, "Mr. Vinson, you are not the city attorney" after asking him why he was present at the city council meeting since she stated he was not city attorney.

Then, when Mr. Vinson attempted to respond to Ms. Moore's embarrassing tirade, Mr. Green would not allow him to respond.

Let me be clear about Mr. Vinson's status: he is my choice for city attorney and does not need city council approval since he was approved at a previous city council meeting.

Could it be that Mr. Green and Ms. Moore plan to reject Mr. Vinson as my choice for city attorney if given the opportunity?

If any city council member insults or embarrasses any of my appointed department heads, at a city council meeting in the future I have instructed them to stop answering any questions until there is an atmosphere of civility.

The only way we can make progress in our city is a cooperative attitude between council members and the city administration. Unless we work together, service to our constituents will suffer, and confidence in city government will diminish. I appeal to each of you to establish an atmosphere of cooperation and courtesy between the legislative and executive branches of city government.