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## Local Voices



Libi Uremovic

## Beaumont Audit VIII - Electric and Water Utilities

Posted on February 8, 2013 at 12:35 pm



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88 Comments

Utility bills are generally not examined during an audit because they have little material value. Whether it's a private company, public entity, or a personal home budget; utility bills can be 'saved upon', but not dramatically altered. The City of Beaumont proves that utility bills can indeed be dramatically altered.

The 1<sup>st</sup> record request was in December, 2012 for copies of the Water and Electric bills for the past year. After a month of stalling the City stated the copies would be over \$2,000.00. I then requested three (3) months – August, September, & October. The City of charged \$450.00 for the water and electric bills.

The procedure for issuing checks is: The bills are collected and coded to the individual departments that created the expense. When a check is issued a copy of the check with the bills attached are filed.

The Check Warrants should show the check and the amount allocated to each department. The City of Beaumont does not show accounting codes on their check warrants.

When the Taxpayer requests a copy of a check the procedure is to open the filing cabinet, pull out the copy of the check with invoice/receipt verifications attached, and print a copy. This information is verified by the City Clerk before received by the Tax Payer.

Before I could start reviewing the utility bills I had to go through and pull out about 450 of pieces of worthless paper. Apparently every month the City waste time and money purchasing, copying, & filing hundreds of worthless sheets of papers. The City then pays a storage company to store thousands of worthless sheets of papers every year.

Processing worthless papers shows poor management by the Finance Director and City Manager. Attesting to the validity of these worthless pages is considered Forging a Government Document by the City Clerk.

### Southern California Electric – Check # 81034 – 10/19/12 - \$65,130.43

The check has \$32,329.53 charged to the General Fund, \$32,427.28 transferred to the Sewer Service Fund, \$373.62 to Transit/Vehicle Maintenance.

The Sewer Service So Cal Edison bill is for three addresses.

6301 Plant D-7 \$1,147.24

6402 Plant \$18,783.45

715 West 4<sup>th</sup> \$12,496.59

The General Fund So Cal Edison bill is divided eight (8) departments:

General government – 550 East 6<sup>th</sup> St \$2,508.38

Community Rec Center – 1310 Oak Valley Pkwy \$4,615.81

Police – 550 East 6<sup>th</sup> \$1,455.16

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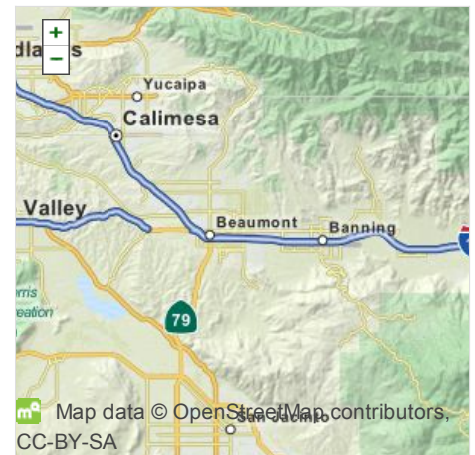
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Fire – 628 Maple \$622.93

Street Maintenance – 394 W Oak Valley Pkwy \$111.28

The spreadsheet attached to the bills list the Maintenance dept. charged \$328.41, but the City's spreadsheet shows the Maintenance dept. has the following addresses with electric charges:

135 Lenora Ct \$26.37

1245 Leaf St \$26.37

101 gloria \$26.50

12942 Potrero Blvd \$1,378.45

455 W 4<sup>th</sup> St \$497.08

\$248.54 is coded to '3100', but there is no Department 3100 on the Budget.

\$22,439.02 is coded to '3350', but there is no Department 3350 on the Budget.

The City of Beaumont codes \$23,439.02 to the nonexistent department 3350, lists the location as 'Various', and has no receipts for these transactions.

### Beaumont Cherry Valley Water – Check # 80557 – 08/31/12 - \$191,371.02

This check has 130 bills attached. It's hard to fathom how a city could use \$191,000 in water until you look at the bills. Only about half the expense is for water, the other half is meter fees and Passthru charges.

The Water District charges a 'meter fee' that ranges from \$18.01 - \$828.00. There are many bills that have nothing but meter charges.

Water bill account # 001 4002 001 and account # 001 4003 001 both lists service addresses as: 100' N of 2 Irr Mtr Xenia.

The 4002 account bill is \$12,309.02 and lists \$72.05 Service Charge, \$3.33 Backflow Administration charge, \$2,900.76 SPW Import Water charge, \$2,080.98 SCE Import Electricity charge, and \$7,251.90 for Water.

The 4003 account bill is an additional Meter charge of \$72.05 and Backflow Administration charge of \$3.33, but there is no water use. The City pays for two meters when only one is in use.

The following accounts and addresses all charge meter use, but have no water usage:

043 0590 000 – Rangel Park \$51.70

045 0713 000 – Palmer Park/Palmer Ave \$29.86

045 0781 001 – Area 1 Sewer Lift Station \$40.75

045 0990 000 – Morgan & Monte Vista Park \$62.52

045 1100 000 – At Park North of Pool \$182.37

045 1624 001 – 1245 Leaf Street \$62.52

045 0240 000 – Cameron & Pennsylvania \$21.80

045 0370 000 – Beaumont Ave/ Brookside Ave \$62.52

In this water bill the City of Beaumont paid the follow for two blocks of Seneca Springs Parkway:

Seneca Springs Park Area \$3,007.30

Seneca Springs West of Park \$1,038.20

30 Seneca Springs \$3,855.38

71 Seneca Springs \$285.78

70 Seneca Springs \$4,353.96

70 Seneca Springs \$ 131.77

90 Seneca Springs \$5,323.96

94 Seneca Springs \$1,403.22

117 Seneca Springs \$1,135.20

The total Water Bill for this two block area is \$20,534.77. \$11,608.89 is Water charges, the rest is meter fees and Passthru charges.

The City of Beaumont has 24 bills with addresses for individual islands along Palm Ave: 'Palm-1<sup>st</sup> Island S of 6<sup>th</sup>', 'Palm-2<sup>nd</sup> Island S of 6<sup>th</sup>', etc... These bill total \$10,193.44. The Meter Fees alone

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total \$2,157.96.

The City paid \$3,736.45 for 'Sundance CR-1<sup>st</sup>'; and \$2,799.43 for 'Sundance CR-2<sup>nd</sup>'. This City also list \$2,543.94 for '1202 Starlight Ave' – which is front of the Sundance Community. There appears to be several City utility bills inside Home Owners Association Communities.

Ring Ranch Road is another two block ares that has four (4) water bills totaling \$7,946.28.

The City blacked out the Service Address on account # 098 1211 001, but the City's spreadsheet lists the bill address as: 'Truck 2406' and the meter charge is listed as 'Construction'.

There are dozens of meters installed all over the City of Beaumont for water and electric. When a business, agency, or private individual installs utilities they want the minimum number of meters to minimize costs.

The City of Beaumont is wasting thousands of dollars every month through poor utility management alone.



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  88 Comments

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

1:52 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

email me if you want to see a complete lists of the utility addresses at [libi@libionline.net](mailto:libi@libionline.net)



**pmtelt**

Flag as inappropriate

2:47 pm on Saturday, February 9, 2013

Libi,

What is being done about this. It sounds to me that the city needs there books audited by the PUC or the States Attorneys office.

**Gary**

Flag as inappropriate

2:13 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

Were any private residences, i.e. employees getting their bills paid on us?



**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

2:26 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

Whose house is this ? [https://maps.google.com/maps?](https://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&q=1245+Leaf+Street,+Beaumont,+CA&ie=UTF-8&hq=&hnear=0x80db435cc7f053c1:0xd7f701ad980c054d,1245+Leaf+St,+Beaumont,+C)

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**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

2:45 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

email me and i'll send you the addresses....there's a lot of 'oddities'....

there are \$20,000 in missing receipts on the electric bill, so we don't know what those address are.....

you guys live there, so take a look at the addresses ...there are 'bulk utilities' for the street lights, bills for the government buildings....and then there are dozens of other bills all over town ...

sometimes there's a meter right in front of a house, but for a lot of the addresses when i google it there's nothing in that location but the meter - the actual house address is around the corner ...

**Ben**

Flag as inappropriate

4:55 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

I tried checking out that address and it wasn't correct. couldn't find the actual address. those pass through charges are to pay for all the infrastructure for importing the state water. Then, to kick us in the teeth even more, we are charged for the state water. Before Beaumont developed water bills were decent, now because of there wasn't enough water to go around and we have to import it now, its crazy expensive. I could care less if Beaumont is blowing money on meters everywhere- thats just another side effect of government getting too big and waste and fraud setting in. What I found totally amazing was what the property taxes were for that area. \$6,000-\$7,000? seriously? Is that right? That's 5,000 more than everywhere else. People who pay that much extra for something are not going to care that they are eating the costs of extra utility bills.

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

5:46 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

lots of the utility addresses are 'utilities bills to nowhere'

there's a \$2,369.28 electric bill for 35980 oak valley pkwy, but when i google that address i'm on the top of a overpass with nothing around...except the oak valley golf club...

**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

6:40 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

I took the google earth street view up to what should/would be 1245 and it is the mailbox area does the city pay for the water in the developments to keep them looking nice?

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

3:19 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

i think what is most annoying is the water meters set up all over town....it must have cost a fortune to install individual meters and getting monthly meter charges is a ongoing waste of taxpayer dollars...

palm ave is lovely, but the houses don't generate the property tax revenue needed to pay the costs of monthly maintenance for the strip of grass down the middle of the road...

palm ave 2nd island n of ovp \$1,383.82  
palm ave 3rd island n of ovp \$638.86  
palm ave 1st island s of 6th \$374.72  
palm ave 2nd island s of 6th \$516.18

there are 22 individual water meter bills for palm ave - instead of hooking it all up to one meter...it looks like about \$9,000/month in water bills just for palm ave alone ...

the city put in a 'mall/park like' strip down the middle of the road that costs \$100,000/yr in water bills alone, plus 'the grounds' also have to be maintained by the city....more labor and expense...

....but the neighborhood is old and the houses have no sidewalks...

taxpayer money is for the basic needs of the community...not for the biggest or fanciest ...

Reply

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

5:30 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

'...What I found totally amazing was what the property taxes were for that area. \$6,000-\$7,000? seriously? Is that right? That's 5,000 more than everywhere else...'

i looked at the housing along palm - they are just average older homes - middle class...they can't possible pay that much property taxes...

...do they...???

Reply

**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

5:54 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

Don't know what you are looking at but in that area they run about 1500-2000 in newer

areas they do seem higher but those idiots bought into some costly mello roos

**Ken**

Flag as inappropriate

6:16 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

This was one of their RDA projects to avoid road maintenance. Blighted neighborhood...and there is no way, even if RDA would have survived that the property tax increment would of ever paid what it cost and individual homeowners would NEVER impose CFD on themselves. So they called it an Urban Trail and used RDA financing. Slapped in Old Towne Streetlight and had all that sod laid. Dont get me wrong it is very nice..just go a block or 2 East between like between 10th and the FWY and see what they ignored...no sidewalks, no curbs little if any street lighting. Interesting devices they hung on the street lights every so often. Wonder how much that system cost.

**Ben**

Flag as inappropriate

6:16 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

It was at the address that Washy googled, on Leaf. Looked it up on zillow first, for they have some pretty awesome street feed. The house they pictured isn't the address, and all the scrolling around looking for that one ended up at a box. Thats where I saw on Zillow those homes in that neighborhood were taxed at that rate. Insane.

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

5:54 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

does anyone know what this location is: 100' N of 2 Irr Mtr Xenia.

\$12,000 water bill...must be something wonderful....

Reply

**Ken**

Flag as inappropriate

6:08 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

That , I believe is the future, and oft delayed, site of RDA pet project low-moderate income housing project. The developer, Pheonix, just got another extension. Beaumont has already put in the water and sewer connections. They have to try and get some \$\$ back some way.

**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

6:01 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

It appears to be a field.....Or the School....Xenia is a street that runs from the Freeway to Sunlight

Reply

**Ben**

Flag as inappropriate

6:26 pm on Friday, February 8, 2013

See, that seems to be the problem. Its a ponzi scheme to pay ahead of development, if development stalls. You got to keep it going. Beaumont would not have freaked out so and said lets take over the water district if they were really as well off as they claim. that smacked of desperation, that running around saying get them down here, we have to work something out. Work something out? Thought you had it "all thought out", so progressive and innovative thinking and all, and had major bucks in the bank. Why so worried? Don't know exactly whats going on, but when people who say they are doing so well panic in public like that, and you add on top their PR flurry that outweighs the total output of 10 other adjoining communities, they aren't making sense.

Reply

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

5:12 am on Saturday, February 9, 2013

the \$7,463.64 water bill paid on 10/19/12 - ck # 80988 consists of 3 bills:

\$131.81 - 628 maple ave - that's the fire station

\$24.13 - 1055 east 6th street - this address looks like it's in a trailer park - 'the barber shop' is

located at 1057 east 6th

\$7,307.7 - 100' n of 2 irr mtr - what is this...????

\$60 - \$80,000/yr is a lot of water in one location...the account number is 001 4003 001

the excuses the city is giving every investigative agency and news reporter is that 'libi doesn't have all of the information'

when the citizenry makes a request of a government agency it is the responsibility of the agency to provide 'all of the information'....

who should know what this water bill is for:

the finance director - signs every check, oversees every penny

the city manager - signs every check, responsible for the functions of the city

city clerk - extra duty of care to verify every document and transaction

council - they ratify the check warrant - council is not legally obligated to review the checks before ratifying the check warrants, but they are legally obligated for their contents just the same..

Reply

**Ken**

Flag as inappropriate

4:46 pm on Saturday, February 9, 2013

As to the trailer park...water was a portion of rent and paid to the slum lord...who quit paying the water bill long ago and the Water District was ready to disconnect the entire trailer park. The City stepped in and paid the bill

**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

5:56 am on Saturday, February 9, 2013

Libi may I send you a picture of that 100' n of 2 irr mtr to your email (later when I go out) it is a wash/field that was prettied up right off the bike path.

Reply

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

6:13 am on Saturday, February 9, 2013

yes, send me a pic...

parks and pathways are wonderful things....but the immediate and long term costs must be considered ...

the double edge of this situation is that the private citizen is paying for the city's water use AND is paying more on their personal water bills to cover the extra demand of water to the area....

**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

6:22 am on Saturday, February 9, 2013

It is not really a park so much as a "preserve" It is a good place for the thugs of our city to go hide because the police will not go through there and look for them.

**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

6:25 am on Saturday, February 9, 2013

OH yes here is the reason we have so many UNCONNECTED short pieces of bike path in our city. Sometimes you have to go three blocks one way, and three blocks back just to get back to the safety of the bike path for safe crossing

<http://www.ci.beaumont.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=586>

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

5:18 pm on Saturday, February 9, 2013

i couldn't get through 2 minutes of your councilmen riding around finding ways to spend tax payer money...

... now show me the video of your councilmen riding around finding ways to SAVE the tax



payer money....

**margaret bragg**

Flag as inappropriate

1:58 pm on Saturday, February 9, 2013

About the water... why would a town on the edge of the desert, with a water supply in overdraft, depending on imported water, even consider planting street spaces that are water intensive? Haven't any of them heard of xeriscaping? I mean if Beaumont is situated where it is, why should it try to look like Costa Rica? Does Anchorage plant orchids? Does that improve the lives of the taxpayers? When you try to grow plantings under adverse conditions, they look bad anyway, even if you do water them. I can't say I've ever looked around Beaumont and thought, "What pretty landscaping." These guys are obsessed with trying to make Beaumont feel like someplace else. Are they that ashamed that it is and always will be Beaumont? Don't the taxpayers deserve to live in a place that doesn't waste their money with hairbrained schemes and public pilfering? Wouldn't Beaumont be a prettier place to live without them?

About the electrical, when one guy is both the electrician AND the electrical inspector for the city, it doesn't take much thinking to understand how the whole thing gets to be a mess in short order. The system is designed to provide oversight, and when there is none....

Reply

**Judy Bingham**

Flag as inappropriate

4:04 pm on Saturday, February 9, 2013

Our former Chairman of the Planning Commission, Mr. Jim Love, owner of Beaumont Electric, benefited greatly during his "service" on the Planning Commission- 2003 through 2005. He made the motion to accept the new developments, was paid by the City to design the street lights in the new developments, and then profited from the installation of those lights. Then he was paid by the City to inspect his own work with no oversight and no State International Code Council (electricians) license ever listed in my research. By the way my Public Records Request in 2005 for those invoices caused his resignation. I have over 5000 pages of invoices and payments from the City to Beaumont Electric as proof.

Reply

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

5:13 pm on Saturday, February 9, 2013

take a look at page 6 of the water dept budget....the good news is that they close their books every month - which needs to be a requirement of all cities and government agencies in cali ..

the bad news is that the customer isn't paying for water - they are paying for the fees attached to the water..

the 1st line for revenue is 'fixed meter charges' - \$2,308,757 for the year

the next line shows the revenue from water - \$5,061.007

the top of page 8 shows the total revenue collected - \$12,162,913 for the year.

only 40% of the revenue is from water...

it's like the tv ads that tell you 'it's only \$9.95...plus \$19.95 for shipping and handling'

Reply

**Judy Bingham**

Flag as inappropriate

5:13 pm on Saturday, February 9, 2013

2000: Disbursements to Beaumont Electric = \$38,747

2001: Disbursements to Beaumont Electric = \$8,172

2002: Disbursements to Beaumont Electric = \$35,424

December 2002 Jim Love was appointed by the City Council by the Planning Commission.

2003: Disbursements to Beaumont Electric = \$96,442

March 2004: Distribution and Service Extension Agreement with Lowe's HIW requesting that the City of Beaumont "provide for the installation of electric distribution facilities and to deliver electricity to the Property." Lowe's was informed by the city that they would only be able to use Beaumont Utilities Services LLC for this service. The address for this company is the same as Urban Logic and letters are sent Attn: Jim Love.

Reply

**Judy Bingham**

Flag as inappropriate

5:15 pm on Saturday, February 9, 2013

August 2004: Jim Love became chairman of the Planning Commission  
September 21, 2004: The City of Beaumont entered into an agreement for Services by Independent Contractor for Electrical Facilities Design, Repair, Maintenance, and Installation. This agreement covered all Task Orders approved by the City for "such services as may be assigned, from time to time". (Task Orders bypass the public bidding process which according to California Code #20164 states all public entities are required to obtain bids for any public project with an expected cost of more than \$5,000.00)

On the same date a Task Order was entered into for Electric Consulting Services which authorizes Beaumont Electric to "prepare plans and specifications for electrical systems. Provide inspection services for commercial, industrial and recreational electrical and lighting systems." (emphasis added) This agreement means that Jim Love is also inspecting the work his company (Beaumont Electric) is performing.

2004: Disbursements to Beaumont Electric = \$136,770

[Reply](#)

### Judy Bingham

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

5:18 pm on Saturday, February 9, 2013

January – July 2005: Disbursements to Beaumont Electric=\$597,640

July 2005: Task Order (bypassing the bid process) payable to Beaumont Electric=\$187,275 for Street Light Cost. On this task order was an additional 5% Plan check and inspection fee of \$9,363.75 and Dave Dillon, Urban Logic Consultants (Beaumont's Economic Development Director) stated that there was no one qualified to inspect outside lighting installations except Jim Love of Beaumont Electric. And according to the agreement dated

9-21-07 Jim Love is authorized to inspect all the Electrical work by his company or any others.

August 2005: City of Beaumont approved Specifications and Bid Documents for Annual Road, Sewer and Public Building Repair and Construction and Electrical Equipment Installation Projects for \$5,695,000

2006: Disbursements to Beaumont Electric=\$2,293,233

June 30 2007: The contract of Beaumont Electric for Electrical and Building Repair and Construction was rejected and cancelled and the City Clerk was authorized to re-advertise for the bids. This was never done and the contracts are still not valid.

January – October 2007: Disbursements to Beaumont Electric= \$2,119,605 Of this amount \$620,652 was disbursed after their contract was rejected

[Reply](#)

### Jolly Roger

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

3:13 pm on Sunday, February 10, 2013

All of the water meters that seem to have addresses to nowhere are actually to irrigation type meters. The address is not the mailing address but rather an address to better direct the meter readers where to find the meter. It's really not a conspiracy as some seem to be alluding to. For example, take the one that has the address blacked out with the description of Truck 2406. The address is blacked out because there isn't one. The meter actually is attached to the City's street sweeper. The one that sits on Leaf is for the irrigation of the medians. The plumbing of these larger irrigation systems are not exactly intuitive and are a little hare to figure out without seeing the system as a whole. Placing all of the islands on Palm on one system (one meter) isn't practical. To do this it would require a large meter (remember that the service charge is based on the meter size), oversized piping and noisy pumps that would require a lot of operational cost. As far as the water rates in Beaumont are concerned, the water is actually pretty cheap. Check out the price of water in the LA.

[Reply](#)

### Libi Uremovic

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

6:03 am on Monday, February 11, 2013

'...Placing all of the islands on Palm on one system (one meter) isn't practical. To do this it would require a large meter ...'

no, that's not how meters work ... one meter would save a thousand bucks/month on palm ave alone...your theory that 'they would have to be really big' is incorrect....it's a small strip of grass running down the middle of a flat road ...they can do an entire golf course or resort using only one meter....putting in a dozens of meters all over the city is a waste of time and money and a rolling error...

and once the profiteers started telling the elected and appointed officials that the only way they could put in strips of grass all over the city was buy running up an extra \$1/4 million/year in water bills the entire operation should have been shut down...



**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

10:26 am on Monday, February 11, 2013

Please tell me in detail how it would be done because science isn't really on your side for this one.

**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

5:47 pm on Sunday, February 10, 2013

One big problem is the amount of leaks in these "gardens" I ran around Sundance today and down Xenia and I counted no less then 15 leaks that have been obviously leaking for months. (I guess you cannot see such things while whipping around town on a bike) I know I have reported on that has been leaking into a field for almost two years it leaks so bad into that field there is one spot that is always lush green.

Reply

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

6:14 am on Monday, February 11, 2013

'...As far as the water rates in Beaumont are concerned, the water is actually pretty cheap. Check out the price of water in the LA...'

that's a lie - the rates in the beaumont area are only 40% water...the rest is fees and additional charges....

and the rate goes up based on consumption...because the city is wasting so much water the taxpayer not only has to pay the indirect costs of the city's monthly water bills...and the debt for the millions of dollars to pay the profiteers ...

...but the taxpayer also has to pay additional direct costs of higher water consumption fees on their individual bills....

AND

it is the duty of elected and appointed officials to find the most conservative ways to utilize the taxpayers' money....not to justify their actions with 'it's not so much' or 'they pay in l.a.'....

Reply

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

10:25 am on Monday, February 11, 2013

Like I said, the water is cheap. The additional charges are passed on from the utilities that serve the water district. The service charge is how the water district is able to maintain their water system. So like I said, the water is cheap. If you want the rates to go down you should advocate for recycled water the need for imported water goes down. Use less water overall to get the electric bill down.

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

1:45 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

'...Like I said, the water is cheap. ...So like I said, the water is cheap....'

water is cheap to you because you're not paying the bills - you're pushing them off on the tax payer...

beaumont pays \$1/4 million/year in water bills and you think that's 'cheap'...??

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

7:18 am on Monday, February 11, 2013

'... oversized piping and noisy pumps that would require a lot of operational cost...'

that is incorrect ... but it does demonstrate how elected and appointed officials are trained to believe the stories they're sold instead of using common sense ... or asking someone that's knowledgeable on the issue, but doesn't have a financial stake in the situation....

water meters measure water flow to the project..

these water bills are for nothing more than sprinklers systems ... this is no different than the private citizen installing a sprinkler system around their home or business....

if the private citizen wants to install 100' of sprinklers ...they attach the system to their home

meter...they are not sold 4 more meters ...because if the private citizen had to pay an additional \$500/month to water a 100' strip of grass they wouldn't do it....they would put a rock garden in that area...

'...palm 1st island s of 12th...palm 2nd island s of 12th ...palm 4th island south of 12th....'

installing a meter every block would have been a scam...but they installed 4 meters on every block...that's a super scam...

the people of beaumont need to start considering a class-action lawsuit against the people that sold and bought this scam ....to re-cope past lost taxpayer dollars and make them go back and pull those meters ....

[Reply](#)

**Jolly Roger**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

10:16 am on Monday, February 11, 2013

Oh man. I see I have my work cut out for me. The meters are not the problem, the piping is. You would need either multiple meters or oversized pipes to run the entire system because of the pressure loss that occurs in pipes and fittings. I'll show you an example.

So let's say we were going to have one meter serve the entire length of the Palm islands from 6th to OVP (about 6400'). So let's place a meter right in the middle of the stretch and have a station with 5 sprinklers at the far end that we want to use. That means we need to have 20gpm (4gpm X 5) go 3200' through 2" PVC. That would drop the pressure by about 13psi. Once you factor in the pressure loss from the meter (maybe about 5psi or so) and the loss from the fittings (this could be substantial by the way) you are getting pretty close to what the pressure at the water service is (whatever the water pressure is at about 11st and Palm is, I would be surprised if its more than about 40psi. This means that if you turn on the sprinklers, nothing comes out.

I know this example seems to prove that it would work but I'm making a bunch of assumptions (all of with lead to less pressure loss). If you don't believe me, call up Home Depot and tell them you want to install a sprinkler system 3200' away and see what they recommend. As far as how the golf courses are served, call them up and ask. They use big meters, big pipes and some pumps to water the entire golf course.

**Libi Uremovic**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

1:39 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

'...The meters are not the problem, the piping is. ...'

yes, paying thousand of dollars every month for individual meters is 'the problem'...

meters only measure water consumption,....nothing more...

do you have water 10 meters connected to your home?

do you have a water meter for every bathroom, the kitchen, the washing machine, and of course one for every 10' of sprinkler system...??

no 10 meters - is that because you have 12" pipes running through your house & lawn...?

and if everything that you're saying is true - the project should have been abandoned because of the monthly maintenance costs....

the city had no surplus of revenue before they started the project....the city ran up massive debt installing water meter projects all over town....

now the city has to pay for the debt ....with interest....plus come up with another \$100,000/month just to pay unnecessary water bills ....

....plus grounds maintenance....

all of their property taxes combined aren't enough to pay for the costs of the strip of 'park' in front of the houses on palm....and their property taxes still have to contribute to sewer and other general needs of the city....

'i've asked this before but gotten no answer, so i'll ask again...what is in beaumont that generates tax revenue to justify all of this government spending and massive debt...??

**Jolly Roger**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

2:52 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

I think you are missing what I'm saying. What I'm saying here is that in order to have

parks and islands that beautify the city, you need either multiple meters or oversized piping and pumps. Are you advocating that we remove all of the parks and islands? If so then run that up the flag pole with the rest of the community and see what they think about it. The reason for individual houses not having 10 meters and oversized piping is because the length and pressures dealt with in a house are pretty small compared mile long irrigation system. Your attempt to make me sound foolish really only shows that you have no understanding of the principles at work here.

The point I'm making here is that placing all of the sprinklers (I'm referring to Palm but a similar case could be made for anywhere that has multiple meters for one area) on one meter wouldn't solve anything because the service charges that would be saved would be negated by the, larger service charge (bigger meter), the installation of new facilities (bigger pipes or pumps), and the associated operations cost. The only real solution would be to abandon the green area.

"what is in Beaumont that generates tax revenue"

I suppose it won't be the cute little town with all of the green space if you get your way, eh?

### Judy Bingham

Flag as inappropriate

7:54 am on Monday, February 11, 2013

As I have suggested before, the people need to organize and bring a TAXPAYER LAWSUIT against the main players in this 20 year fraud. Urban Logic Consultants, Inc. and their partner, Alan Kapanicas, General Government Management Services, Bill Aylward, Finance Director & Mokray, LLC, and his significant other, Shelby Hanvey, Administrative Assistant & Deputy City Clerk, need to go to jail. Your elected officials, Jolly Berg, De Forge, Castaldo, Fox, and Knight, all knew the shell game they were involved in and they must be RECALLED at the very least. How will we ever clean up the mess they created unless we hold them all accountable. As I have said several times in City Council, just because they say it's true, doesn't mean it's true. They have violated the public's trust. It is SCANDALOUS what has happened in this town. I am working on a petition to ask that County, State and Federal authorities step in and provide some oversight since our electeds do not seem willing to do the right thing.

Reply

### margaret bragg

Flag as inappropriate

11:39 am on Monday, February 11, 2013

I called Lowe's on Jolly's recommendation, adding meters wasn't one of the required tasks! That is absurd logic. Of course, they thought I was a homeowner needing to water a huge lot, not a public official trying to explain my city's actions. I swear, these guys should put together a comedy act--the Three Stooges weren't this funny.

They could have put in Boulders, pine trees and natives and not irrigated it at all, and done something unique and attractive in the process. Get the memo Roger--ALL of California (and most of the West) needs to give up on grass as a landscaping option. Pretty much everybody in landscaping is on board with this.

Reply

### Jolly Roger

Flag as inappropriate

3:02 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

Margaret, did you say to them specifically that your yard was over a mile long? What materials did they recommend? Since you're so fond of the Lowe's guys, call them back and tell them that you need to get water to a sprinkler that is 3600' away and that you need to know what type of pipe and how much pressure you would need to do that. Tell them you're concerned about the pressure loss that would occur in the pipe. Ask them to clarify this and get back to me. Don't forget to leave out that you want to do this with one water meter. You could call a water district (any district) or any sprinkler guy for that matter and ask them the same questions.

I would advocate for drought tolerant landscaping but that would require more money which we already know how that goes. The some of the new park areas are actually drought tolerant.

### Libi Uremovic

Flag as inappropriate

3:42 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

jolly roger - do you honestly not understand the difference between a water meter and a water pump?

a swimming pool needs a water PUMP - but it uses the same water METER as the rest of the property....

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

3:49 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

Libi, do you honestly not understand that the reason there are the amount of meters is related to a pressure issue? The pumps increase the pressure that would be lost due to the friction of the pipes. I would venture to guess that my knowledge of pipes and pumps exponentially greater than yours. Look up the term "pressure head". Maybe then you will see that the absence of one may require the presence of the other.

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

3:57 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

'...“what is in Beaumont that generates tax revenue”...I suppose it won't be the cute little town with all of the green space if you get your way, eh?...'

is the city making money from the 'green spaces' and 'cute'...?

do tourists travel for miles to look at a plush park down the middle of a road that doesn't have sidewalks, .?

are businesses coming to town because of 'green spaces'....?

again i ask - how the fk did you @sshholes plan to pay for the millions of dollars of debt that you've run up on 'pretty'....

there was no 'investment' made, so there is no revenue return to pay for the debt incurred ..... tens of millions of dollars blown with nothing to show for it but massive debt with interests and monthly bills that the city can't afford to pay...

Reply

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

4:04 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

'... I would venture to guess that my knowledge of pipes and pumps exponentially greater than yours....'

a piece of candy has more knowledge than me?

state your real name and pic so that your community can see who's expertise they are reading...

...or did your momma actually name you after a sugar/chemical substance wrapped in plastic...?

Reply

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

4:48 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

Umm I think you mean Jolly Rancher. He's my cousin. He lives on a ranch.

I'm telling you not to take my word for it. Call somebody with a basic level knowledge of fluid mechanics. You could even Google it!

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

4:11 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

Wow! Name calling already? This would be another reason your concerns aren't taken seriously.

"is the city making money from green spaces and cute?"

Well they make money from property tax that is generated by people wanting to live here so yes the City is making money from green spaces and cute. I would think that trying to attract tourists wouldn't be very cost effective. Good thing that these parks are for the people living here and to attract new citizens. Hmmm... Sort of sounds like an investment...

Are you accusing me of making these decisions or is that just a rhetorical 'you'? I think maybe you might think I'm somebody that I'm not.

Reply

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

4:22 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

you still can't answer the question - how does your city plan to pay for the massive debt....and no, pretty doesn't pay the bills ...

state your real name and picture ...I have no idea who you are, but you certainly are trying to defend a defenseless position....

and state your political party so we can keep track of which political party defends government corruption and pillaging the taxpayer dollars....

...and makes choices based on how people swoosh you...

our country is in massive debt ...it's time to grow up from your simple little childish world and dreams and disillusion...

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

4:33 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

'...Sort of sounds like an investment...'

when you purchase something for millions that has no ability to generate revenue it is not an investment...it's a scam waste of money....

the utilities and upkeep on palm ave alone is thousands every month....there is no way that property taxes were able to increase to pay for the initial costs and monthly upkeep...

how did the city plan to pay the debt?

through property tax increases...? through directly charging the citizenry...?

i agree ...pretty is the most wonderful thing on earth....but it still has to be paid for...

how does the city plan to pay for their massive debt when they also have massive monthly bills for the upkeep...???

Reply

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

4:45 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

Libi,

-How should I know how they plan to pay debt? Your full of colorful ideas, why not suggest a few. Maybe a bake sale? I don't know, that's why I'm not the mayor. I do know that running around suggesting things that are completely ill-conceived (I point you to the solution you propose regarding one meter for all the sprinklers on Palm) isn't productive to the cause.

-The names' Rodger and I don't have any current photos of myself.

-I don't prescribe to a political party but I suppose if I had to pick one I would probably go with the American Atheist Party or possibly Libertarian. I don't like going with whatever one specific party has to offer.

-Not sure what you mean by 'people who swoosh' me but I assure you that I don't take kindly to people that run noisily by me...

-Our country does seem to have some financial issues but I think they could be more related to expensive wars as opposed to the White House lawn.

-The only thing I see childish here is your debating tactics and grasp on fluid dynamics. If you're a grown up then I will gladly be a Toy's-R-Us kid.

Reply

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

4:46 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

does any business or private residence have multiple water meters on their property ?

the theory that the private sector can make it with one water meter, but if it's taxpayer dollars there must be water meters installed every few feet is ridiculous....

Reply

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

4:59 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

Yes. Many business and some residences. And it's not a few feet, it's a few hundred.

**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

4:53 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

I see what roger is thinking (incorrectly) you do need to have different lines for that much and water them in sections. you cannot water a mile of yard with one line/meter/PUMP (yes libi there is a pump to get the water from the meter to the source....It is not like you are thinking but there is a pump) This page might help you debate or understand what you are arguing better <http://www.timelycn.com/How%20to%20select%20and%20install%20water%20meter.htm>

Reply

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

5:00 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

Where am I incorrect? Please elaborate.

**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

5:27 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

Yes you need a new meter/pump for every 100ft or so IF you insist on water at the same time. BUT if you break that mile down into several lines off the same meter and rotate your watering it can be done. I don't think having 100 meters in town is a huge issue it is the amount of money be spent on some of those meters that leaves me wondering why don't we have more rock gardens and waterless islands. It would have been cost efficient to use what Yorba Linda uses FAKE grass all over their beautiful city....it dropped water use and need for so much maintenance....

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

6:01 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

Well Washy I see what you are saying but the distance wouldn't be 100ft or so, it's about 3 quarters of a mile (assuming that we stick this one meter right in the middle). I was only talking about running five sprinklers at a time. If you were to try doing all of the sprinklers at the same time the pressure requirement would probably get somewhere in the thousands of pounds. (if you like you could provide me the parameters and I could give you the numbers).

But I do agree with you. It's the water use that is the issue. There is a lot of water wasted. The City has started to require developers to put in drought tolerant landscaping for the green space but I'm not sure if this is being enforced. I would love to have some drought tolerant landscaping installed throughout the city but that would require an investment and support from people such as Libi.

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

5:04 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

on the west side of merced county by the san luis dam hundreds of acres were developed into farm land in the mid 70's....

because of the hilly terrain and hundreds of acres of land there had to be a couple dozen pumps installed all over the hills....

the reason i know this is because the kingfish and i installed the pumps .....

...but we didn't install water meters in the fields with the pumps ...nor was it a consideration....one customer...one water meter....

i realize that i was taught things as a child that most adults never learn.... but some common sense should kick in for adults at some point in their lives...

Reply

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

6:08 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

Dude... Libi... Why do you suppose that the pumps were installed in the hilly terrain? You suppose it had anything to do with pressure? If the goal of the project was to move water from one place to another than installing pumps was the right call. If the goal was to measure the amount of water flow then a meter would have been installed. What I'm saying is that the repercussions of removing the multiple source points of water (many meters) is that you now have to move water from one source point (one meter) throughout the entire system. If you want to move water, you need a pump. Why is this



not clear? Would you like me to provide some equations or something? A picture? This isn't a hard concept.

**Kris**

Flag as inappropriate

6:27 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

Libi, what have you realized that you were taught that most adults never learn? Or is this one of those pretentious statements that helps maintain the delusion that J. Roger isn't mopping the floor with your flacid contentions?

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

8:06 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

'...Why do you suppose that the pumps were installed in the hilly terrain? You suppose it had anything to do with pressure?..'

yes, it was hilly terrain combined with hundreds of acres of land ....which is NOT a narrow strip of grass on a flat road...

'...Libi, what have you realized that you were taught that most adults never learn...'

how to calculate costs and look at a project rationally instead of making purchases based on wants or marketing ploys...

the reason we have massive federal and local debts is because these governments can spend money without consideration to costs or practicality....the mentality has got to stop...

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

8:21 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

FRICION! FRICION! FRICION! Its friction that causes the pressure drop. Elevation can cause a pressure drop also but as you say Palm is flat (relatively). The small change in elevation is small potatoes compared to friction in this case. I'll say it again, FRICION! Hazen and Williams are banning their heads against their coffins. Please look up the term friction loss, or head loss, or better yet, head loss due to friction. I'm starting to take personal offense to your inability to understand this concept. It is my goal to make you understand this...

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

8:26 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

Libi, in you extensive cost analysis and project rationally experience (you apparently got as a child) did you ever factor in plausibility? Rationalizing that one option (say replacing a bunch of meters with one) is a good option doesn't suddenly make it plausible (or in this case, possible).

Reply

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

8:54 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

how plausible would it be to put in a energy efficient system in the 21st century...?

yea...that part of the equation has crossed my mind....

which is why a \$191,000 water bill is outrageous ..

these projects aren't old.... there's been a drought in cali since the late 70's...energy efficiency and saving taxpayer dollars should have been the 1st priority...

....and it wasn't a consideration at all....

you're not a libertarian...libertarians do not believe in wasting taxpayer dollars without any thought to the immediate or long term costs....

libertarians believe in less taxes and less government....you believe that cities should go into massive debt without any means of repayment...

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

9:20 pm on Monday, February 11, 2013

I agree. Put in an energy efficient alternative. Too bad that isn't what you describe with your one

meter idea. The problem is that for them to put in an energy efficient alternative it will cost money. Since I know you're not a fan of spending money what's your alternative?

Who said I was a libertarian?

[Reply](#)

**Libi Uremovic**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

4:38 am on Tuesday, February 12, 2013

the citizenry needs to sue the profiteers that scammed the city to recoup their money ...

it's over 100 addresses all over town....your city is also paying for utilities in homeowners associations...

**Jolly Roger**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

12:18 pm on Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Dumping money into expensive lawsuits that will probably be a lost cause doesn't seem like a solution as much as it sounds like retribution.

There are just as many water meters as there needs to be. And the "HOA utilities" are for green areas and street lights that the city maintains so what's the problem.

**Libi Uremovic**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

5:06 am on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

there are state and federal laws on the books to recapture government funds that are pillaged...

in a class action lawsuit the attorneys carry the costs and take a percentage of the profits...

**Washy**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

6:34 am on Tuesday, February 12, 2013

If you are talking about paying in Solera well that is one big EFFF UP by our city . Straight down the center of Solera is a Green Belt that has be designated city park space. The HOA fought the city council for the rights to that area (cuz we who don't live there can demand to have picnics or play there!) and the city council would not budge Other then that we don't really have HOAs so much as over mello roeed neighborhoods.....And if people are paying those big mello roos then Beaumont should take care of their public property.....

[Reply](#)

**Ken**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

5:59 pm on Tuesday, February 12, 2013

The crux of the matter is neither found in head / pressure / meter / piping / friction / sizing etc. The argument answer is found in both camps in this no win situation. The answer lies in SUSTAINABILITY (using a resource so that the resource is not depleted or permanently damaged ) and PRACTICALITY (The aspects of a situation that involve the actual doing or experience of something rather than theories or ideas.). I think we can all agree that the City has alot of theories and ideas that are not in the best interests of this Community. I dont want 19,000 new homes in order to pay for a desalinization plant. Urban Logic is privately held and I cant make bank investing in them...Someone has. Ask yourself..is what our City Manager and Staff and Council doing whats best for long term viability? Or finding any way possible to float the boat?

[Reply](#)

**Russ Russell**

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

4:07 am on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

To figure Head pressure its 43 pounds loss per 100 ft raise in elevation. However you can also gain 43 pounds going downhill. Friction loss all depends on the size of the pipe. I'm a retired firefighter who teaches Fire Hydraulics at the local Community College

[Reply](#)

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

5:11 am on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

a thin strip of grass running along a flat surface shouldn't need a pump AND meter every few feet.....drip irrigation would work...

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

9:14 am on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Libi, the point is that if you have a meter every few hundred feet or so you don't need a pump. This is why there is a meter every few hundred feet. If you reduce the system to one meter you would have to do one of two things: install a pump or install oversized pipes (or I suppose a combination of the two also). Again the problem with what you are suggesting is the pressure drop due to FRICTION in the pipe and fittings. If they were to replace all the meters with one meter, the drip irrigation wouldn't work either using their current system. Once you get a certain distance away from the source you could turn on the water but nothing would come out because of the pressure loss due to FRICTION. If you like you could try this experiment: get a couple of really long hoses, connect them together, and turn on the faucet without connecting them. Watch how much water comes out. Then connect the hoses and turn it on again and see if there is any difference.

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

11:38 am on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

there's a monthly charge on each water meter ...a pump would be a one time purchase..

if a person/company/town has excess revenue and wants to put in luxuries like top of the line walkways and paths...that's one thing,.....

but when a person/company/town has to take out bank loans to purchase luxuries - the luxuries should never be purchased..

the local government is a mini federal government....they're not thinking of the basic needs of the citizenry...they are only thinking of ways to blow money - and that is not their job...

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

5:21 am on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

the city website lists the population of beaumont at 36,887 ... about 15,000 homes..

under commerce the city lists no commerce....but under commerce they do state: "the city's market population is currently 120,000"

1. who's 'commerce' is that ?
2. is there actually 25,000 empty houses in beaumont?

Reply

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

1:00 pm on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Libi, a pump would be a onetime purchase... Plus the monthly electric and maintenance charge. Keep in mind that the pump itself has a life span. So if you do a cost analysis factoring in the annual costs of upkeep and maintenance, the current cost of the pump (keep in mind that the installation of the pump is still probably going to require the pipes to be replaced with larger pipes so factor that cost in as well), the one service charge for a much bigger meter and subtract the annual cost of the cumulative meter service charges you will get a number, call it X. I would suggest doing this analysis over the life span of the pump. If this number X is negative then it is a good investment. This means money saved.

Do you see how if you approach the City council with this type of information you would be taken more serious? My whole point with this exercise is to illustrate that sometimes when they City doesn't do something that seems so obvious it may be because it's not practical. You seem to be very passionate about the City's spending but I see that you are mostly complaining rather than proposing some plausible solutions. Channel that passion into something more productive than just complaining and maybe you will see some of the changes that you hope for

Reply

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

4:49 pm on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

i've got transaction # 178118, ck # 74555 on 04/08/11 - \$427,725.62 and other on 05/05/11 # 180290 - eft # 345 - \$142,575.21...both are written to 'motorola', coded to '67' - capital replacement fund ...both say 'services'...

when i google motorola i get cell phones...does anyone remember what services were provided for \$570,000..?

Reply

**Jolly Roger**

Flag as inappropriate

4:56 pm on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Your realize that Motorola makes stuff other than cell phones right? They usually make expensive electronics. FYI

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

5:02 pm on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

no, i don't know...that's why i'm asking...

**a little justice**

Flag as inappropriate

5:10 pm on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Boy, you're right...A piece of candy may be smarter than you!

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

5:28 pm on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

do you know what the money was spent on..?

**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

5:51 pm on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

<http://www.motorola.com/Business/US-EN/Business+Product+and+Services/Two-Way+Radios+-+Public+Safety>

**a little justice**

Flag as inappropriate

6:00 pm on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

You're the auditor, so I'm only guessing. It seems to me that the radio / dispatch systems were upgraded a few years ago, and I seem to remember Banning and Beaumont did them simultaneously to make them compatible. Record Gazette would be a good source as I believe they wrote a story about it. I find it difficult to believe that Beaumont is trying to hide a legitimate \$507,000 expense.

Reply

**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

6:09 pm on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

You are likely right, but what has come of this investigation into Beaumont's books, is very sloppy accounting, two check books being used at same time, many loans on taxpayers money with little (no) interest (example one police officer has 19k in loans and is paying back 126a month!), loans to people who are related to someone who is on city council, thousand of dollars a year being spent on "work parties" several times a year, for some reason taxpayers are giving city workers 50 dollars a month to get exercise and most are not using it for that (the proof is in the puddin) we are over paying for some educations and they are obviously not using that education to better our city and Beaumont Electric has taken our city for MILLIONS.....Oh yea and some shit about sprinklers! (lol we are spending near 200k a month in water)

**Washy**

Flag as inappropriate

6:14 pm on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Libi please don't think I am making fun of your investigation it has opened my eyes to what my city

is spending my money on.

Reply

**Libi Uremovic**

Flag as inappropriate

6:33 pm on Wednesday, February 13, 2013

don't worry buddy...i don't have thin skin...

not everything is an ulterior motive.... an internal audit identifies the money... ..but not all is a conspiracy... sometimes it's just money spent...

i'll ask about random things like the motorola and yum yum donuts because it's a big chunk of money that's not connected to anything else ...and it's something the public probably knows about...

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