

Going shopping? **Grocery Specials**
Find local specials and coupons you can print. [Start Saving](#)

Check Patch Grocery Specials for coupons and weekly deals before you go!



Editor [Renee Schiavone](#) renee.schiavone@patch.com



1.9k

Patch Newsletter

Nearby ▾

Join

Sign In

Banning-BeaumontPatch 34°

- Home
- News
- Events
- Directory
- Pics & Clips
- Holidays
- Real Estate
- »

Breaking: Indio Man Suspected in Robberies in Palm Desert and Valley »

Local Voices



Libi Uremovic

City of Beaumont Internal Audit: Preliminary Findings

Posted on December 13, 2012 at 12:03 pm

Recommend 22

Tweet 0

Email

Print

136 Comments

An Internal Audit is sometimes called a Forensic Audit because it is a dissection of the entire subject, not an investigation of anything specific. The Budget is the City's plan on how they will spend the People's money. The Check Registers show exactly how the money is spent. The Financial Statements should be the totals of the Check Registers. In Internal Audit compares and verifies the information.

All expenses must be approved and coded to the department from which the expense is allocated. The City of Beaumont shows their Check Register with the Council Agenda, but they have the accounting codes blocked out. When I requested a copy of the check registers with the accounting codes their reply was: "We don't have Check Registers with Accounting Codes".

My first thought was: "You Lie" because coding the expenses to the individual departments is a major component in the check writing process. But now that I've reviewed their books I believe that they are writing checks without Accounting Codes.

I have received a copy of the General Ledger because the City has stated this is the only documentation showing Accounting Codes. There are payouts of over \$1,000,000 with no explanation and there are purchases for \$1.00 with the memo 'candy bar'. There are utilities coded to 'contract services' and contract services coded to 'telephone'.

For example: 09/20/12 - \$55.00. This entry is allocated to '6100' – which is a department that is not on the budget, coded to 'Utilities' with the memo: 'Beaumont Unique Flowers'.

Below is a Summary of my Preliminary Findings.

Forging The Check Warrants: Council Agenda Item 3.a.3 list the Check Warrants for the City of Beaumont. These check numbers are five digits - '80876', but there is another set of checks that are six digits - '51142' that being drawn from the same Bank Account, but do not appear on the Check Register.

This is called Forging the Check Warrants and it is a Violation of State and Federal laws. Council ratifies the check warrants, but the law states they don't actually have to view the checks before they are ratified. The ones legally responsible are the Finance Director, City Manager, and City Clerk who has an extra duty of care to certify all is true and accurate.

Per Department: These are irregularities I've found. A more detailed audit will follow.

1350-Community Development: This department budgets \$80,000/yr for Contract Services, but spends over \$100,000/yr.

01-1410: This Department Code is not on the Budget. An account entry that doesn't hit the budget is called a 'Ghost Account' because the expense is there, but you can't see it. There is one entry dated 05/27/11 for \$3,216.00 coded to 'Utilities' with the memo 'Southern California Association'. The other five entries in the last two years totaling \$15,135.00 have the memo 'Joe Gonsalves & Son'. This is a lobbyist group.

1550-Community Services: This Department is budgeted \$50,000 budgeted for 'Maintenance & Operations, but has a \$75,000 entry to 'M & M Group' as well as numerous others.

FiOS

HURRY! OUR BEST DEAL OF THE YEAR ENDS 1/5/13

TV, INTERNET AND PHONE STARTING AT **\$79.99** /MONTH + TAXES & FEES

YOUR CHOICE

\$300 VISA* PREPAID CARD WITH 2-YEAR AGMT OR NO ANNUAL CONTRACT

[Check Availability](#)

Sponsored Links



Coffee Bean That Burns Fat?

New Jersey; celebrity doctor uncovers his #1 way to burn fat fast. [LiveHealthyDigest.com](#)



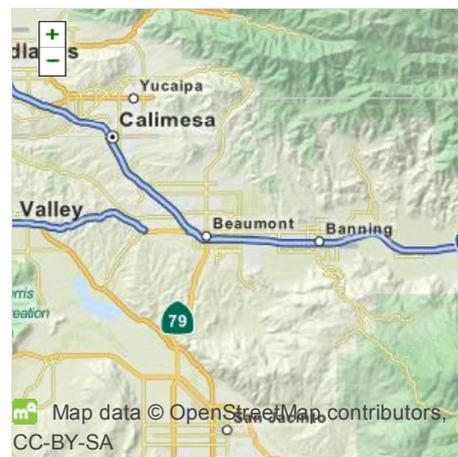
\$10,000 Poker Tournament

Play Free Poker. Win Real Cash. No credit cards. No entry fees. www.pureplay.com



Refinance Rates at 2.13%

\$150K Mortgage for \$581mo. 2.35% APR Lower Your Mortgage Now! mortgage.Lendgo.com



SEE MORE ON PATCH

[Beaumont Audit III – Forging The Check Warrants](#)

[Records Request - General Fund Bank Statement Documentation](#)

[City of Beaumont Audit - General Fund Bank Statements](#)

[Records Request To The City of Beaumont: This Is An Internal Audit - Open Your Books](#)

[Here's My Candidate's Statement](#)

2150-Building & Safety: This Budget lists Personnel Services expenses at \$475,000, but the State Controller's Office lists the maximum these four (4) employees can make is \$303,160.

01-3350: This Code is not on the Budget. There was a salary was hidden in this account with the last paycheck dated 06/17/11. There are several hundred thousands of dollars in entries, most are listed under 'Contract Services'.

6050-Maintenance: The Personnel Budget is projected at \$1,683,000, but the State has the budget limits at \$1,000,000.

01-6060: This Code is not on the Budget. There was a salary listed FYE 2011 and is still used for fuel.

Personal Use of Government Funds: Tax Payer Dollars and City Time is Never for Personal Use.

Notes Receivable – Beaumont Shooting Range: The City has fronted this private sector business \$81,169.00 since the 1st of the year, but has only received one (1) payment for \$1,630.70 on 08/31/12.

Urtiaga Gibbs – Resource Director: 08/13/12 wrote a hot check for \$3,242.16. On 08/15/12 the amount was credited with the memo: 'loan', but there is no loan account set up or payments being made.

Personal Loans: There are several personal loans being floated through the City books – Eight (8) of which are the Upper Ranks of Law Enforcement. Some of these loans are over \$10,000. This is absolutely unacceptable.

Ronald Morning: This person received 8,857.70 in loans from 01/07/11 – 04/20/12. but has only paid \$4,805.77. This person is no longer on the Employee Roster.

Jeffery Fox: This Councilman receives \$100 - \$250 loans every month and the City even gave his son Jeffery Fox Jr. a \$200 loan on 10/18/12.

Diners' Club Card: This card is coded to every department in many different accounts and with amounts ranging from a few dollars to a few thousand. This does seem to be the only credit card hitting the accounts and will need its own audit to verify the transactions.

That is the overview, now I will start to dissect the parts. Every penny of tax payer money is accountable. Every transaction must be documented. All government documents are a matter of public record.

 Upload Photos and Videos

 Recommend 22

 Tweet 0

 Email

 Print

 Follow comments  Submit tip  136 Comments

margaret bragg

Flag as inappropriate

2:33 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Libi, thank you so much for this! It has been needed for years. Everyone should read this carefully and understand where their money really goes.

Reply

Kathy

Flag as inappropriate

2:39 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

This is a lot of things that you have found. I certainly hope there are reasonable explanations for them all, but some of them seem quite outrageous. That item referring to the councilman, does he pay back every loan he receives? From what I understand, members of the council receive over \$300 a month stipends, \$50 a month for cell phones, and \$300 a month for medical benefits. This last one is put into a deferred account if they already have insurance, and that \$3600 a year x 4 years every term adds up to \$14,400 every election period. Three of the council have been on it for many, many terms. This is excellent pay for a job that doesn't even deserve the label of "part time". No one should be getting loans from taxpayer funds, that is not what we want them used for. Please get back to us with more info on all the payments that are being done off the books. None of that makes sense.

Reply

ONE KINGS LANE



Find What You Love
UP TO 70% OFF HOME DECOR—AND MORE

SHOP NOW

THE 2013 JEEP PATRIOT
STARTING AT MSRP* \$15,995.

30 MPG



Jeep

BUILD & PRICE >

MOST POPULAR BLOG POSTS

[Beaumont Audit III – Forging The Check Warrants](#)

[That Bingham Lady sure got a Sweatheart Deal](#)

[Records Request - General Fund Bank Statement Documentation](#)

[The Noisy Butt Fire Truck \(NBFT\) will be on the move Christmas Eve](#)

[City of Beaumont Internal Audit: Preliminary Findings](#)

Libi Uremovic

Flag as inappropriate

5:24 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

loans are taken out and payment are madefox's loans run from \$100 - \$250 ...he used to pay them back in \$50 amountssince june he's paid back in \$100 amounts..

more disturbing are the cop accounts...chief of police coe has been paying \$256.41 on a loan for the last two years...on 08/12/11 his 'account' is given an additional \$3,000 loan, but the memo has another officer's name listed.

police sargent keyser took a \$10,000 loan on 03/25/11 and a \$9,230.74 loan and pays back \$128.21 every paycheck

on 08/19/11 a \$5,800 loan was attached to officer stehli's check, but the loan memo says: 'darin wann'...\$57.69 comes out of stehli's check....wann also has a \$74.36 deduction ...

ruben ortiz was given a \$1,447 loan on 08/23/11...this person is not on the employee rooster, but the loan was paid in full on 08/24/12...

lieutenant scott beard received a \$3,800 loan on 09/09/11 and pays \$73.08/paycheck..

sargent joshua ellsworth recieved a \$4,850.24 loan on 09/23/11 and pays \$93.27/paycheck..

officer daniel lee received a \$16,000 loan on 11/21/11 and pays \$205.13/paycheck..

Must love dogs

Flag as inappropriate

8:47 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Yikes!!!!!!If Berg has been on the council since '93, thats 19 to 20 years, that \$300 a month every council person gets and puts into a deferred account is up to \$68,400-\$72,000 now!!!! That's on top of his other monthly check of \$300 plus. That's not chump change. It pays to work for the government!

Mark C

Flag as inappropriate

4:02 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Does Beaumont have reserves like they claim, or do they have a deficit?

Reply

Libi Uremovic

Flag as inappropriate

6:11 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

i don't know mark - my focus is to track the rda and gas tax money first so the state controller's office can get their auditing teams scheduled...

Adam W

Flag as inappropriate

8:26 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

Libi please look into the CFD money and registry, as we could never get a clear answer from the city on that. Kapanicas profitted from all the CFD's in Beaumont. I would think this is a real area of concern.

Debbie C.

Flag as inappropriate

10:25 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

If a City employee is profiting by getting a percentage of the CDF's they are handling, and have made no effort to refinance those bonds while interests rates are rock bottom, they are, in my opinion, stealing money from Beaumont residents. If someone's mello roos could and should be lowered even a few hundred, and isn't, just so someone making a percentage off the higher amounts can make that extra dollar, then shame on them! Citizens should ask themselves, am I doling out money that I shouldn't, and get involved.

Adam W

2:53 pm on Friday, December 14, 2012

Libi- look at the Beaumont Financing Authority.

Flag as inappropriate

Ken

9:02 am on Saturday, December 15, 2012

None of this surprises me

Flag as inappropriate

Charles Ferrell

4:03 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Somewhere between sloppy and criminal is this situation, apparently, at Beaumont City Hall. The term "loan" should never appear in any government bookkeeping ledger. I place the blame for this, at best, sloppy, situation on all city council members, present and past, for allowing this to happen. Brenda Knight gets a pass on this, so I would expect her to take the lead in demanding some answers. And I mean DEMANDING.

Reply

Flag as inappropriate

Time4change

5:23 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

I agree with you Mr. Ferrell. Accountability now is what we need. However, I would file your demands to Brenda Night under the "that will never happen" binder. Remember that her name was in that very nice postcard before the elections from Pass area families for good government, so her loyalty has already been "committed". But hey, I wouldn't mind to be proven wrong on this one.

Flag as inappropriate

Roger Berg

4:19 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Libi Uremovic you are not performing an Audit for the City of Beaumont. The city has not hired you and you are not licensed to do this type of service. I checked with the State and you do not have a CPA or PA license in California as your name is not listed. Listed below are the requirements to be a Certified Public Account or Public Accountant in California.

o You must have a degree in accounting, auditing or taxation to become an external auditor in California.

o , you must get a CPA certification before practicing as an auditor.

o You are then required to apply for a license to practice as an external auditor. In California, as of 2011 external auditors must take 40 hours of business studies or 24 hours in auditing, accounting or tax.

This being said I can see why you don't understand a governmental budget/ accounting and how it works. You have no business calling entries lies etc when you are misrepresenting who you really are. Unless you can provide your CPA or CP license number, I would suggest that you cease from calling you comments and audit and rather refer to them as an inquiry. Furthermore if you want answers to your questions then I suggest that you drive up from Imperial Beach where you live and attend the City Council Meeting. You can submit your question to the City Council during the Public comment portions.

Reply

Flag as inappropriate

A different perspective

4:31 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Your right here, Roger. And you have supposed checked over every single budget before voting on it. So you should KNOW what at least some of these things are. Pretty easy to clear things up with just a few type strokes. And why does Beaumont loan out taxpayer money? Can any resident show up and ask the city for a loan, then?

Flag as inappropriate

Time4change

4:57 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Funny Mr. Berg (not really). I was expecting a reply from you stating something along the lines of "Thank you very much Libi for your work. We as elected officials need to look into this as well, and I will be calling an extraordinary meeting with the rest of city council to.... etc." But not surprisingly you once again go the other way. You are a disgrace to our

Flag as inappropriate

community and should resign.

Ms Libi, thank you so much for showing us how our elected officials and public employees have conducted themselves while representing us or by the way they spend our money. Your time invested thus far is much appreciated.

Washy

Flag as inappropriate

5:12 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

When is the next council meeting I need some extra cash that I don't "really" have to pay back.

Libi Uremovic

Flag as inappropriate

5:47 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

you are incorrect roger....this is the people's money and the citizenry does not need any license or training or an invitation from the government officials that are pillaging tax payer dollars...

any citizen of this country can view, audit, and analyze any and all government agency documentation...

this is a new day roger... we pay a lot of taxes to provide quality services for your communities and line workers, but the money is being pillaged...and the people pillaging the money get away with it because people like you think it's 'how government works'...

if you and your corrupt city official buddies don't like private citizens auditing government books then 'i would suggest' that you contact the state...

call the state controller's office with your complaints because when they came to me to speak to me in person they said: 'we want to see everything you've got'...

call your governor ... cry your crocodile tears to jerry... you won't have to explain who i am, our families have known each other for 60 years....

no more taxes...no more blaming cuts in services...no more blaming the line worker...it's time to walk the walk...

Linda Sabatteli

Flag as inappropriate

7:17 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

I'm with Washy, where do I line up to get a loan? I would like to live outside my means without consequence, like so many of your employees seem to do. That's not caring, that's called enabling.

margaret bragg

Flag as inappropriate

7:59 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Roger, it's pretty clear Libi wasn't hired by the City of Beaumont! You guys would do most anything to keep from having a forensic audit!

What are you going to do next? Threaten her, try to frighten her, or try to sue her?

Libi, these guys are bullies, and they'll do most anything to protect their revenue stream. Make sure you forward every threat you receive to the D.A.(or higher)

pat

Flag as inappropriate

6:54 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

That's a pitiful argument roger . Rather than give explanations , you attack her qualifications on her ability to find discrepancies . Also we all know that asking questions at a city council meeting only ends up with answers that require more questions if you're lucky enough to even get an answer . Why is it that there are growing questionable practices that keep coming up about the city govt . ? Eventually all these reasonable inquiries are going to spread to the voting public where common sense will finally prevail .

kim murphy

Flag as inappropriate

3:59 pm on Friday, December 14, 2012

Roger why are you so worried??

Reuben E. Dominguez Sr.

Flag as inappropriate

5:23 am on Monday, December 24, 2012

Are you feeling the HEAT Num-nutts Berg? because the sun is starting to shine light on your shady dealings. but I'm sure you have applied sunscreen all over yourself and have all the right answers to all of these unethical questions that are going to start raining on you like a meteor shower. I applaud the day when you are physically removed from office. HA ha ha ha

BMF2012

Flag as inappropriate

4:23 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Regarding to the loan from the Beaumont Shooting Range..... That is owned and operated by Casey Seewoster who just happens to be Jim Loves (Beaumont Electric) brother in law....hum? Coincidence? I think not. Follow the money trail Libi. GREAT JOB! Keep going.

Reply

Nancy Gall

Flag as inappropriate

4:33 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

I hope now people understand why I asked so many questions(not because I was "angry and bitter" Charles) but because it smelled. As Libbi points out the city didn't give us sufficient information to do our job. However, the information we did get was enough to make a reasonable person wonder. As I've stated before the city manager, attorney, and financial officer need to go.

Reply

Washy

Flag as inappropriate

5:10 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

And yet instead of demanding an audit/or doing and audit you kept taking yes? You are just as responsible Nancy! Just because you were voted out doesn't mean you weren't there when it was going on and you here in writing for all to remember/read admit you thought "it smelled bad"

Adam W

Flag as inappropriate

8:28 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

Nancy, most people know the truth- that you knew things were rotten at city hall. You will always have someone who discounts this- but most have been to the council meetings and know how you were treated.

Nancy Gall

Flag as inappropriate

4:40 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Well, Roger, when Libbi drives up from Imperial Beach, are you going to gavel her down on the green light and adjourn the meeting as you've done to our own citizens?

Reply

Ben

Flag as inappropriate

5:03 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

I'm thinking that if even one check was written and the reason not recorded clearly somewhere to prove its valid, then something is going on. Its not rocket science to make a list of all departments, code them, and then every check carries that code to show what it was for. little stuff that doesn't seem to fall under any certain category should be in a everything category which still has a code, with a detailed explanation of what it was for. this is pretty simple stuff, so when it gets convoluted, or hard to understand, the people in charge are either incompetent and deserve the boot, are ripping the place off, or have egos the size of Manhattan thinking they can do whatever they want cause they know best and are in control, -all three are bad news

Reply

Ben

Flag as inappropriate

5:04 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

forgot to say, this is the same crap the water district old management was pulling, remember the famous I didn't know I had to keep receipts line?

Gary

Flag as inappropriate

5:31 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Libi, can you please look into Banning next?

Reply

Libi Uremovic

Flag as inappropriate

6:16 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

i plan to audit every city in cali until we break this cycle of corruption and get our state prospering again...

Constant Comment

Flag as inappropriate

5:33 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

I have never heard of a city or town fronting its employees money. Refer them to a credit union doing business in the city, yes. What interest rate are they paying, if any? No wonder Beaumont's audit showed a deficit. From what these people's salaries show, they are making decent bucks. Why are all these people broke, then? Beaumont seems to be the poster boy for liberal overspending, loaning out money, not recording where it went, giving preference to friends.....disgusting.

Reply

Libi Uremovic

Flag as inappropriate

6:15 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

roger berg...on the payroll since 11/22/1993... reads that he's been caught forging the check warrants and his only response is to come up with reasons to stop me ...

...can't stop laughing...

roger - you either sat there for 9 years and never even glanced at the checks or bank statements.....

...or you've known about the hidden check book the entire time....

Reply

Libi Uremovic

Flag as inappropriate

6:21 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

as roger berg pointed out...i am not hired by the city of beaumont, i am hired by the people ...you can contribute to the audit here: <http://libionline.net/contact.html>

i'm running this as private sector service so it is 100% tax deductible ...you have every right to audit your finances and deduct the expense from your taxes...

Reply

Concerned Citizen

Flag as inappropriate

9:32 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

Fully tax deductible? Really...as a CPA who worked very hard to obtain my license and continues to work hard to maintain it, I would love to know what sort of deduction this be classified as.

I have no issue with you inquiring/investigating our ELECTED/APPOINTED officials' duties. It is their job to do their due diligence and make sure our city stays funded and supported; and they most definitely should always be moral. BUT, as someone who has experience in these audits, there is a reason why they are performed by CPAs. They/we have experience! We've been educated and gained actual work experience on how and what to do and what to look for.

It is completely UNFAIR that you would look at a bunch of check registers without supporting documentation and make accusations about various employees and elected officials without doing YOUR due diligence. It is defamatory and deters from the focus of the audit's true purpose! This is the expression of an opinion as to whether the financial

statements are fairly presented in conformity with appropriate accounting principles. It's an auditing firm's duty to detect fraud.

I read your website and maybe you should consider the INNOCENT people left in your wake!

Concerned Citizen

Flag as inappropriate

9:36 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

Have you considered that the employee loans are PENSION loans!!!! Hence the payroll deductions!

Libi Uremovic

Flag as inappropriate

11:33 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

it's classified as an expense ... any business or person that itemizes can use it as a deduction...

you're a cpa in the city of beaumont and you never noticed that the city blocks out the accounting codes?

how could you not notice that...?

why am i in your town concerned citizen...why haven't you stepped in and looked at your own books..

all you have to do is glance at them ...it's more than apparent.....why didn't you ever look...?

...or doesn't anyone in beaumont use accounting codes...is that it... it's your 'style' in that part of the state...you just freeball it....

Reuben E. Dominguez Sr.

Flag as inappropriate

5:50 am on Monday, December 24, 2012

Concerned Citizen, is a coward elected official who hides behind a phoney name and computer screen and tries to sway public opinion back in their favor. Its pretty obvious who this idiot is.

Linda Sabatteli

Flag as inappropriate

7:07 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

What's a hot check? One that bounced? And a note to Roger, this lady doesn't have to be hired by you anymore than a grand jury is hired by you. I can't believe this is how the mayor of Beaumont responds to such serious allegations, with insults instead of explanations or concern.

Reply

Libi Uremovic

Flag as inappropriate

7:16 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

yes, a hot check is insufficient funds....there's an accounting code for nsf checks ...

Nancy Hall

Flag as inappropriate

8:36 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Status quo for Beaumont, I'm afraid. This is how City Council has treated people for years.

Nancy Gall

Flag as inappropriate

7:31 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Washy, you are wrong. I voted no and said no almost every time. I voted no on Kapanicas' contract and budget. I repeatedly voted no on boondoggles,etc,etc,etc. I also talked to the IRS, the FBI, and the current DA. This is not saying "yes."

Reply

Washy

Flag as inappropriate

7:08 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

Did you ask for an audit? I don't use my real name because it might put me in danger because the BPD don't show up here when we need help. I am too vocal about drug dealers in our mobile home park. I take video (have a youtube account under not my name) and post them in the internet because BPD won't help. Around me we have three spaces selling Meth and two selling Heroin....If I come on here and state their space numbers how am I protected. I will however tell you who I am. (in private somehow) I am a small business owner and have been for 17yrs and have watched Beaumont steal from its people and watched the PD do NOTHING for the "poorer" areas. Here is a clue who I am. I filed a complaint at city council because when we get car thefts, shed thefts or even a home burglary, BPD asks us "what do you want us to do about it" In fact commander Beard was the latest to use that phrase to the lady next door when her Christmas decor was stolen by the meth heads in number 5 The ones driving a grey truck with NO PLATES that the police won't even pull over when they are behind it, or Beard wouldn't even look at while he was here.

Dex

Flag as inappropriate

8:57 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

Washy....please explain your animosity towards Nancy, as I don't understand your anger. I have been following the shenanigans and behavior of the council for a few years now, and generally Nancy has been the only one who has asked questions. She was the one looking out for our interests. She was the one voting "no". She was the one requesting details and transparency. And yet you are so trigger happy to throw her under the bus....please explain.

Washy

Flag as inappropriate

4:59 pm on Friday, December 14, 2012

@ Dex It was she that came and gloated "I told you so, I knew this was going on" Where is the information she forwarded to the state controller? Where is her request for an immediate audit? She jumped in front of the bus. I blame everyone in the city's office(s) for what is going on. Nobody here has even touched on some of the other dept heads and their acts of theft from the tax payers. BTW wouldn't a pension loan come from a pension account. Does Beaumont have a pension account or is all our money just muddled together?

Nancy Gall

Flag as inappropriate

7:40 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Washy, I want to tell you who is responsible-people like you. You won't even use your real name. And people like you think everything is hunky-dorky because we now have Walmart and Kohl's. I was not silent at all and you have always seen my real name.

Reply

Washy

Flag as inappropriate

7:10 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

Fact remains you were not a whistle blower just a check collector (btw moron I voted for you) and I don't think life is honky dory with Kohl's et al....

Hopeful

Flag as inappropriate

8:28 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

So Libi What are the \$25,000.00 TFG Debit Cards on 11/9/11? I believe I also saw another \$25,000.00 spent on these elsewhere. Just curious as to what they are. By the way thank you for the countless hours you have spent on this. I know so many are grateful for all you are doing!

Reply

Ken

Flag as inappropriate

6:16 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

Hopeful

For 2010-11 I have it at \$60.000 TFG Debit Card

For 2011-12 \$25.000 TFG Debit Card

Washy

Flag as inappropriate

7:13 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

<https://www.tfgcard.com/> It seems to be a pre paid credit card that is used in payroll.

Which begs the question why this and not direct deposit

Libi Uremovic

Flag as inappropriate

7:50 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

using credit cards instead of checks is the wave of the future paper checks are being eliminated, so people that don't want direct deposit get their pay added on a debit card just like foodstamps...

almost every company vegas eliminated paper checks a few years

Ken

Flag as inappropriate

8:18 am on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Im still not convinced about tgf debit cards being used for payroll \$60,000 (2010-11) is just over the average pay per yr for ONE employee!! In the private sector their use is quite common as flexible gifting, bonuses, etc. simply as a prepaid debit card. If it were a payroll card there would be monthly transfers (bimonthly)...Oh wait maybe our Finance Director creative thinking led him to prepay the the prepaid debit payroll cards

Victor S Dominguez

Flag as inappropriate

10:35 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

The facts are coming out. This is just the tip of the ice berg. The more shocking facts will come out later in due process! Is this beginning of the end? Roger Berg we need a explanation, you better call your city manager and ask him what to do. Mr. Mayor we will not stop, we will not be silent, we will not go away until the hard working families of this community have all the facts to make intelligent decisions at the polls in 23 months!

Reply

4th Of July

Flag as inappropriate

11:45 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2012

Give us a break victor, someone else does all the work and you wave the banner?

Reply

Victor S Dominguez

Flag as inappropriate

5:58 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

4th, don't be upset because I have freedom of speech and you hide behind your computer under your desk. Question, how does it feel to always be on your knees and do you feel like a man behind your key board? I know who you are 4th relax.....

Reply

Hopeful

Flag as inappropriate

7:52 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

Thanks Ken and Washy I had already looked up the site as I have for many of the transactions out of curiosity. But my question is why the cards? Also then why are there deductions paying a payroll company as well? Still would love to see what was bought at Walmart every month too! But it seems all is coming to light and I can't wait for more people to hear about it.

Reply

Debbie C.

Flag as inappropriate

10:37 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

@Concerned citizen, I disagree, I think Libi is qualified enough to list what she thinks are irregularities, which she will pass on those who are qualified. She is performing a time saving

step, by going through all the information first, and just compiling things that she doesn't think are kosher. There are no innocents needing protection, my husband and I borrowed once from our pension, and it was no deep dark secret. What needs to be found out is if these are pension loans, which may be acceptable practice for the city to perform, or if they are just loans, plain and simple, which isn't. And when anyone is a public employee, being paid out of our tax dollars, they are aware that any and all information is available to the public to review. They are aware of this when they take the job.

Reply

Libi Uremovic

Flag as inappropriate

11:15 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

that's right debbie... we all know the problem is the books, but for government auditing agencies to collect enough information to bring in prosecution isn't easy for them... they're all on budgets themselves...

everyone needs to realize that the state has been trying to get into the city books, but the city governments keep blocking them... and refusing to show their paperwork...even to the state

what i'm doing is eliminating the middle man.... i'm handing over enough data that the local, state, and federal authorities can 'do their job'....

Judy Bingham

Flag as inappropriate

10:45 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

By the way, do you know your sewer rates are going up? Maybe you could borrow some cash from Alan Kapanicas to help pay your bills?

From the city council agenda 12-18-12

<http://www.ci.beaumont.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/16498>

Reply

kim murphy

Flag as inappropriate

3:58 pm on Friday, December 14, 2012

Judy I figured as much after I read the report!! It was stated that someone is going to have to pay for the new water filtration system so here we go!!

Libi Uremovic

Flag as inappropriate

11:27 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

i'll be looking at everythingand doing a lot of record requests and asking questions...and maybe there is a simple explanation....not everything is criminal...

in imperial beach i was seeing checks for things like 'guitar picks & drum sticks' and a lot of food....so i follow the money...

and it turns out the ib sports park employees put in a recording studio for the kids...and they built it themselves so the material costs was so little i didn't notice ...

the employees at the sport park felt defensive when i audited them, but they had nothing to hide and everything to be proud of...i don't know how they run the place on \$200,000/yr...

and it turned out the city was fluffing their budget to make it look like they were spending \$275,000 and falsified the financial statements in 2011....

and let's be clear that is it the people on top that are responsible...not the line worker... the line worker doesn't have access to the money...the access has to be handed to them by their superior...

Reply

My 2cents

Flag as inappropriate

11:54 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

You should not of listed peoples full names until you knew ALL the facts of the loans...PENSION LOANS.

Reply

Libi Uremovic

Flag as inappropriate

12:05 pm on Friday, December 14, 2012

if they're pension loans then they need to go under deferred pension loans.....and it could be that they are mis-coded....there's a lot of mis-coding...

and that still doesn't account for your councilman.....or his son....

Ken

Flag as inappropriate

3:23 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

[http://www.calpers.ca.gov/index.jsp?](http://www.calpers.ca.gov/index.jsp?bc=/member/retirement/faqs.xml&pst=ACT&pca=ST#Can_I_take_a_loan_from_my_CalPE)

[bc=/member/retirement/faqs.xml&pst=ACT&pca=ST#Can_I_take_a_loan_from_my_CalPE](http://www.calpers.ca.gov/index.jsp?bc=/member/retirement/faqs.xml&pst=ACT&pca=ST#Can_I_take_a_loan_from_my_CalPE)

My 2cents

Flag as inappropriate

11:56 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

I agree with you- Concerned Citizen

Reply

Hopeful

Flag as inappropriate

11:58 am on Friday, December 14, 2012

It is all public record whether she listed them or not. We will not be distracted at the finger pointing to those working so hard to look into what is going on here. If all of the spending is legit then the City has nothing to worry about. All we can do is ask our questions, stay involved, and see the outcome.

Reply

My 2cents

Flag as inappropriate

12:07 pm on Friday, December 14, 2012

It is public record however Inappropriate until it is proven that they have done something wrong.

kim murphy

Flag as inappropriate

12:34 pm on Friday, December 14, 2012

My: how is the inappropriate if it is public record? She never said anybody did anything wrong!!

Reply

Dex

Flag as inappropriate

1:44 pm on Friday, December 14, 2012

I really don't understand Mr Bergs defensiveness at all. If everything is on the up and up, he should welcome citizens overseeing and validating the affairs of our city, because it would verify our leaders are doing a good job, and being good stewards of the taxpayers money. But given the behavior of our council, their evasiveness in providing clear concise answers, their "quickness" in shutting up people they don't want to listen to at council meetings.....I can't help but think that his defensive posture indicates that he doesn't want anyone looking into the dealings of the city. The council seems to forget that it is "OUR" city, as well as theirs, and we have every right to know EXACTLY what is going on with our money. Face it -- If something stinks, there is usually something rotten at the bottom of the pile.

Reply

Roger Berg

Flag as inappropriate

2:23 pm on Friday, December 14, 2012

Dex you misunderstood what I said. I have no problem with anyone requesting public records, it their right. The problem I have with Libi is she is misrepresenting who she is. She is not a CPA or a Public accountant. Furthermore she is running a business charging folks for information that they can get for free. If the citizens of Beaumont have concerns with the finances then please come to our City Council meeting this Tuesday and ask your questions during public comment portion. You will get an answer right then if we have it. If we don't we will refer it to the city staff for answer.

Reply

Gary

Flag as inappropriate

2:46 pm on Friday, December 14, 2012

You're wrong, Roger. I see nowhere where Libi claims to be a CPA or a Public Accountant; that's YOUR accusation. I also see nowhere that she is "charging folks for information they can get for free". She asks for donations to help her with her investigations, but that is entirely voluntary. Besides, charging a fee to provide a service that people "could" do on their own but would rather not (for any number of reasons) is not illegal.

And from what I have seen, coming to Council meetings and asking questions, as you suggest, often results in less than satisfactory answers, and/or treatment that citizens should never be subjected to by their elected officials..

What are you so afraid of, Roger? If everything is on the up-n-up, then you should welcome the chance to set things straight and "put Libi in her place", correct? But that doesn't seem to be the case. Something stinks here, just as it has in Banning for many years, and if it takes someone like Libi to finally break through and expose just where that stench is coming from, then so be it.

Gene

Flag as inappropriate

6:58 pm on Friday, December 14, 2012

Was Beaumont Chamber of Commerce involved? That definitely is a good old boys job.

Reply

Nancy Gall

Flag as inappropriate

8:43 am on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Washy-I was trying to get the annual audit that the city paid for. They wouldn't release it until after the election. That audit showed significant problems including a huge deficit , not a huge surplus. They were lying and Jeff Fox was either ignorant of this or lying in his campaign. Either one should be damning.

Reply

Roger Berg

Flag as inappropriate

11:42 am on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Really Nancy. You kept bringing up the question about a Audit that meets the standards of the United States for over a year. Even after an explanation was given to you on your question about the the 2011 audit. Don't you remember? The review of the audit was part of a agenda package that was given to you.

Ken

Flag as inappropriate

12:14 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

I can submit a document that meets the standards of the United States. Apparently you have missed the point Mr Berg, the question is are the numbers and accountability and due diligence being performed in a reasonable and prudent way, all the while knowing the fiduciary responsibilities that should be given. The State doesn't give a damn about your Tacos and Beer parties, Christmas dinners, or get togethers at The Sand Trap. WE DO! I suggest YOU read the Audit notes that specifically states

"The City's General Fund had a deficit in unassigned fund balance of \$10,871,054 at June 30, 2011. For

further information, refer to Note 22 of the notes to basic financial statements. In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding paragraph, the financial statements of the governmental activities do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles

generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the governmental activities of

the City of Beaumont as of June 30, 2011, and the respective changes in financial position for the fiscal year then ended."

Im sure the explanation was generated by the same source as the original misinformation...

Reply

Roger Berg

Flag as inappropriate

12:36 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

First of all Ken your question about the deficit has been answered in the past. The 10,871,054 is loan to the RDA from the City. The money was used for city wide improvements as stated before such as the Nobel Creek Park. The loan is being paid back to the city through the oversight agency who is the successor to the RDA. The city will get its money back, it is just going to take some time. We still have a 17 million dollar surplus. I don't know of any city functions at the Sand Trap. I am looking into the expenditure at Tacos and Beer and see what it was for.

Now if you would like to donate a \$100,000.00 to the city so we can do the audit that will meet the standards for the United States I think the rest of the city council would agree to doing that. Right now I don't want to waste the taxpayers money on that type of audit that will produce no different results.

[Reply](#)

Adam W

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

7:17 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Yah Roger will the government will pay me the money they owes me come April too.... oh yah... maybe not.....fiscal cliff 2013....

kim murphy

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

11:59 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Mr. Berg you talk about these improvements city wide and mention Noble Creek Park yet I saw that there were improvements to city streets, mine included and guess what we are still waiting!! I think we are going on lets see two years!! So please tell me where these improvements are?? The streets of Beaumont are deplorable!! So again I ask where did these improvements go??? Thank YOU!

Beaumontian

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

12:57 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

As much as I think someone looking in to public record is a good idea, going about it in the right way and know the facts is key.... People that have read your blog Libi have already blasted this all over facebook and your condemning these people from our home town by saying they recieved these loans on our dime not stating that they in fact can possibly be pension loans but all you stated was what you think is going on and thats all people see now...so as much as your trying to help your acting as a tabloid... giving only partial truth...do I think some money gets waisted? Most likelybutplease finish your audit before you

[Reply](#)

Beaumontian

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

12:59 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Ruin people

[Reply](#)

Hopeful

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

1:10 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

I think we all have minds of our own and can read for ourselves. I think many of us have dealt with the City and it seems, as I have read here, more than a few have had less than satisfying experiences as citizens of this City. Especially getting cut off when questioning during City Council meetings. I have heard that more than a few times here. Many of us don't have the time, nor the patience to deal with much of this on a regular basis, especially if we aren't familiar with the process. That is why it is good to have someone come in and help out who knows the ropes.

[Reply](#)

Ken

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

1:17 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

076233 07/01/2011 SAND TRAP SPORTS BAR 750.00 NEW YEARS PARTY
076255 07/06/2011 WILLIAM AYLWARD 2,390.00 YR END PARTY
076306 07/08/2011 LETS HAVE A PARTY 135.72 YR END PARTY
071623 07/23/2010 STATER BROS 1259.85 GROCERIES
079099 03/ 23/2012 TACOS& BEER 1000.00 SERVICE
079205 04/ 05/2012 LIL' RUSSO' S 600.00 SERVICE
073273 12/10/2010 Beaumont Cafe 1249.06 Xmas party food

DOES ANYONE SEE A PATTERN HERE?

Through the Oversight Agency..who will ask the State if this is an enforceable obligation. Am I correct? And are you saying 10,871,054 is the outstanding balance from the City loan to the RDA? You and I both know the total of that loan is closer to \$22 million The RDA paid back \$12 million?(NOT) Or you gave up on repayment of that portion?

GRILL PARTY

[Reply](#)

Mariana Zuelsdorf

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

2:11 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

I'm curious about the money spent for two Christmas parties at the Beaumont Cafe. Approx \$2700? And almost \$1300 at Stater Bros for groceries? They must spend a lot of time eating!

Washy

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

5:17 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

isn't the Beaumont Cafe the one on the corner of Beaumont and Tenth? Was it Beaumont Cafe in 2010? And if it was....2700 dollars in food? I think the thing that stabs me the most is we had lil Russo's for sports banquets at the HS, the kids had to raise the money to pay for it themselves!!!

Adam W

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

7:23 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Mariana: for years Beaumont staff has spent thousands on food with no regard for the public! The have had staff luncheons and meetings spending hundreds of dollars each time. And no one but staff was there. But no one was watching the bank! I THANK LIBI SHE BROUGHT THIS TO THE TABLE!

Libi- look at luches that took place 2008, 2009 & 2010. They were less than sly then. You will find many more problems in 2008-2010 than now. Lately "they" have know things may be coming. Look in the past!

Hopeful

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

1:21 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

LOL!!

[Reply](#)

Hopeful

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

5:28 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

MY LOL was at Ken's comment. How sad the kids had to raise their own money for food. I remember one day in Banning all I had was two bucks and I gave it to the Banning kids fundraising for school sports and could not believe how excited they were to receive two whole dollars. Then here to see 2700, spent on what?? Makes me madder by the minute.

Ken

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

1:24 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

I guess Mr Berg wasnt invited either...

[Reply](#)

Hopeful

[Flag as inappropriate](#)

1:27 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

I'd like to see all of the party pictures. I know someone has some good ones!

[Reply](#)

Beaumontian

Flag as inappropriate

1:27 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Yes having someone look into things is great because lots of people don't have time and as I said , do I think it is necessary?? Absolutely...I'm positive there is money unaccounted for.... but as for some "knowing the ropes," I'd say she made an obvious armature mistake by flooding half truth information.... the proof of fellow Beaumont citizens having to borrow from THEIR pension during a recession isn't proof of anything.... it's sad and there struggling just like everyone else.... Get the FACTS together, then we can thank you for your hard work... this is just a sloppy start..... there are obviously delinquencies so keep working at it without being a tacky tabloid!!! I grew up in Beaumont for 22 years and my family still resides there..... So until you have the FACTS you can't have "your mind made up" that's just ignorance

Reply

Mariana Zuelsdorf

Flag as inappropriate

2:33 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

I agree. While there appears to be mismanagement in Beaumont (rumors for years), I'm beginning to have some doubts about Libi. This is obviously a business she created, so in a sense, it is self serving. Putting it on Facebook, if she in fact did that, is advertising her business. It's also not the entire story. She posted raw facts without additional information. I know that a responsible audit/investigation is needed but feeding small bits to the public, in hopes of getting donations, is rather tacky. A trail of candy.... Tie it all together and give the bottom line, Libi.

Adam W

Flag as inappropriate

7:29 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Now "Beaumontian"- you are new here as you just posted a few things as of lately..... please have an open mind. Police officers making \$100K plus shouldn't need loans..... plus Cheif Coe making \$200K plus.... yah right. Please don't think regular citizens think poor, poor police and thier small payrolls. They make PLENTY of money! Get over it sister! Tell them to go work at Chili's or Walmart, or Home Depot, Tacos and Beer or the Beaumont Shooting Range..... they will make LOT LESS! Regular citizens making ends meet.

Washy

Flag as inappropriate

9:07 am on Sunday, December 16, 2012

How is pointing out that in 2010 the city spent 2700 dollars in food for parties at Beaumont Cafe out of the same fund these loans are coming out of. (If they were pension loans the city wouldn't have their hands in it.)

Ken

Flag as inappropriate

3:18 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Can I take a loan from my CalPERS retirement account?

Current law does not allow you to borrow from, or make a loan against, the member contributions you have in your CalPERS account. There are no provisions for emergency or hardship loans.

[http://www.calpers.ca.gov/index.jsp?](http://www.calpers.ca.gov/index.jsp?bc=/member/retirement/faqs.xml&pst=ACT&pca=ST#Can_I_take_a_loan_from_my_CalPERS_retir)

[bc=/member/retirement/faqs.xml&pst=ACT&pca=ST#Can_I_take_a_loan_from_my_CalPERS_retir](http://www.calpers.ca.gov/index.jsp?bc=/member/retirement/faqs.xml&pst=ACT&pca=ST#Can_I_take_a_loan_from_my_CalPERS_retir)

Reply

Ken

Flag as inappropriate

11:56 am on Sunday, December 16, 2012

Hey Washy since Mr Berg didnt know about any City functions at/from The Sand Trap Bar and Grill, I just wondered if he could shed any light on some other City functions

Washy

Flag as inappropriate

12:23 pm on Sunday, December 16, 2012

Hey Ken I don't care if he knew the point is he SHOULD have known.

Washy

12:23 pm on Sunday, December 16, 2012

Ken I know that sounds snarky to you it wasn't supposed to (LOL)

Flag as inappropriate

Ken

1:05 pm on Sunday, December 16, 2012

no worries!

Flag as inappropriate

Ken

3:53 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

The City is neither a financial institution nor has any degree of skill in risk management and amortizations of personal loans with assets that are wholly controlled by a separate entity that the CITY makes contributions to. Any agreement made by the City to an Individual as far, as a loan goes, under the guise of a "pension loan" or otherwise:

- shows little to no oversight or accountability
- flaunts current law as to "pension loans"
- portrays City finances to be an endless well of opportunity for abuse
- questions the mindset of the individuals that approve, write, or account for such practices
- further erode the faith of the public in their elected Representation
- and/or the ability and effort that said Representatives, duly elected, have in comprehending the principals of Municipal Government.

(BIG LETTERS ALL)

Representative individuals DIRECT City Staff to implement the goals and strategies of the City, AS DEFINED by careful consideration by all parties, for the benefit of the City as a whole, and DIRECTED by the Council to the Staff. Of course long term Management and foresight is needed for stability and an ever changing voter opinion. It just appears this is not what is happening in the place we all call home. We all want a better place to live and raise our families. OK I lied, some dont live here, never have, never will. They are the same people that projected a build out with 100,000 residents by 2025(approx). No TY

-

Reply

Hopeful

3:55 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

I could be wrong, but I don't think she was asking for donations directly. Again I could be wrong. I remember seeing something saying Judy was picking up the cost and if we wanted to donate to help Judy pay for the cost. Please everyone stay focused. The biggest trick in the book is distraction and turning people against the person who is giving the information that may hurt the ones who are allegedly doing wrong is meant to distract us. Oldest trick in the book and too many people fall for it. We are too easily distracted. Focus focus focus! The truth will come out, good or bad. This is just the beginning and we can clearly see without Libi that all is not legit here.

Ken ... good info.. good to know about CalPERS. I will just trot down to City Hall should I need a loan!

Reply

Washy

5:20 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

wanna carpool it would be more cost efficient perhaps we could teach them a few things about a budget! Are there itemized receipts for Staters and Walmart? Would hate to think we (the taxpayers were buying liquor

Flag as inappropriate

Nancy Gall

4:34 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Libi is bringing to light many things that some of us only suspected. the way the information isn't free. The city is charging thousands in copying costs for these records. By the way these loans have nothing to do with pension loans-either government controled or 401K. If you borrow from these, the city wouldn't even have knowlef it. It would be the employee's money and business. These are a misuse of public funds and frankly quite shocking.

Flag as inappropriate

Reply

Nancy Gall

Flag as inappropriate

4:42 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Roger, we have the audit. It's the city's finances that don't meet the standards of the United States. By the way, this is not an option. It is law. You can't have the council vote to do otherwise. The audit was prepared by a CPA of Alan's choosing and says the city has serious financial problems.

Reply

Nancy Gall

Flag as inappropriate

4:42 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Roger, we have the audit. It's the city's finances that don't meet the standards of the United States. By the way, this is not an option. It is law. You can't have the council vote to do otherwise. The audit was prepared by a CPA of Alan's choosing and says the city has serious financial problems.

Reply

Roger Berg

Flag as inappropriate

9:17 pm on Sunday, December 16, 2012

Nancy Gall: Could please tell where is the law that the City of Beaumont Audit has to meet the standards of the United States. Please quote it per the United States Code of Federal Regulations etc. I would like to know what you are referring to. You asked the question in the past, so please let me know where it is so I can review myself. Thank you.

kim murphy

Flag as inappropriate

10:36 pm on Sunday, December 16, 2012

Mr. Berg would you please reply to the other question asked of you on this entire post and PLEASE get off Nancy's back!! Where is the money approved for an uplift on many of the streets here in Beaumont but the work was never done??

Ken

Flag as inappropriate

5:29 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Id also like to know how the City is going to "purchase Service Credits in CalPers" for a City Manager that currently doesnt meet the criteria for purchasing such credits. Or, as I suspect and stated long ago, that a technical ruling will be needed to see if said individual was eligible for CalPers enrollment, regardless of Contract Employee status. This, of course, would leave the City in arrears for 17 yrs worth of CalPers contributions.

Reply

Adam W

Flag as inappropriate

7:35 pm on Saturday, December 15, 2012

Good luck Ken. Kapanicas is suck a sack of potatoes..... He is getting away with bloody murder in my book. And makign money on all the CFD's!

Hopeful

Flag as inappropriate

9:17 am on Sunday, December 16, 2012

Kim I totally agree about the streets. Thursday during the rain I drove the streets from Banning to Beaumont. The second I crossed Highland Springs it was a bad drive and got worse the further I got into Beaumont. Then I had to drive into Cherry Valley on a road I don't often travel and have never travelled in the rain. Brookside. I got to one area and it had a sign on the side like most of our streets do that said flooded. Typically this is just the corner area of the street or going down the street just a bit. The whole street was flooded. They should have had signs blocking the entrance to that street so that drivers did not have access. I have never been so scared in my life. I felt trapped on that street and just kept hoping that I would make it and my car would not flood out. I have never been in that situation and felt so unsafe. Had I been more familiar with the street I never would have gone down it. Being dark, you could not see the depth of the water. The City should have had that whole street shut down not just one little sign in the corner like they often do on Palm which is a road we all know to be still accessible with the small flood sign on the corner as many of our streets are. I am hoping there is no damage to my car. But what a

difference from Banning streets to Beaumont streets. We need to bring them in to do our roads and fix them once and for all. Our streets have been an issue since my childhood and I am going on 40 soon.

Reply

Ben

Flag as inappropriate

11:52 am on Sunday, December 16, 2012

Don't be blaming CV for brookside, the part that is paved is CV/Riverside, the crap part that people drive on the wrong side of the street to avoid is all Beaumont's. Hope they aren't expecting that tent church to pony up the funds to fix their side. If 17 mil is laying around, it makes no sense that you guys can't pop out a couple of 10ks to pave that south side part of the road, so not buying that reserves story much. Been many a person who has thought of posting signs showing Beaumont's side of the road and one for CVs, so that drivers know who to blame when they hit those cracks and potholes. Stop partying and start paving, that's a good new years resolution.

Hopeful

Flag as inappropriate

12:34 pm on Sunday, December 16, 2012

I wasn't blaming Cherry Valley. As you can see I was clearly discussing Beaumont's roads. I said I had to drive into Cherry Valley. But my full post was Beaumont being responsible. But if I am wrong for Beaumont being responsible I will stand corrected. I do not know who is responsible for what part in Cherry Valley because I had always assumed it was a part of Beaumont. They share the same zip code after all. I just know we shouldn't have to be afraid driving these streets at night because we can't see and they are flooded all the time. You would figure in 20 years time they would have solved this problem by now. Especially when they say they are spending money on improving our roads. I would like to know which roads were improved as well. I don't see them, but I sure do see a lot that need improving.

Reply

Judy Bingham

Flag as inappropriate

12:04 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

<http://publicpay.ca.gov/Reports/Cities/Cities.aspx>

Check out Beaumont's highest paid employees on the State Controller's web site .

Reply

Judy Bingham

Flag as inappropriate

1:23 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

According to the MOU between City of Beaumont and Managers as Individuals, dated Jan. 1, 2012, and the City employee roster, Alan Kapanicas is City Manager, but we know he has several titles. How many other classifications is he paid under ??
Bill Aylward is Assistant City Manager and Finance Director. His partner Shelby Hanvey is Assistant to the City Manager and Administrative Services Manager.
Keith Hightower is Building Services Manager, Kari Mendoza is Support Services Director.
Elizabeth Urtiaga -Gibbs (didn't she get a loan ?) is Resource Director.
Bob Sherwood is Community Services Director and daughter Kristin Sherwood is Customer Service Coord. I
Rebecca Deming (former Urban Logic employee) is listed a Planning Director and husband Robert Deming is City Treasurer.
Shelby says we have no Public Works Director (Deepak Moorjani) or Economic Development Director (Dave Dillon) Then why has Urban Logic's contract never been renegotiated or put out to bid since 1994 by City Council ?
City Clerk is Karen Thompson and daughter Ashlee Thompson Starr is listed as Customer Service Coord II.
Lynell Berg (Mayor Berg ?) is listed as Customer Service Coord. I , Kelsey DeForge, daughter of Councilmember DeForge is listed as Management Analyst.
Three Harwoods, Christopher is Quality of Life Officer II, Heather is Customer Service Coord. I, Shaina is Customer Service Coord. IV.
Kevin Norville is Buildg/Grounds Maintenance and Shaylene Norville is Customer Service III.

Reply

Mariana Zuelsdorf

Flag as inappropriate

2:16 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Wow, it sounds like a family business!

Lifer in Bmt.

Flag as inappropriate

6:28 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

If they do the projects & their performance is good get off of them.
There is no policy that forbids it

Judy Bingham

Flag as inappropriate

2:30 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Yes, it is just one big FAT happy family with an unlimited Diners Club card and professional "Party Planners" to boot! Attend at a council meeting and you will see that citizens don't bother to show up because they are harassed and called crazy or sued when they question the way Beaumont does business and misuses taxpayer money. The ones getting a City paycheck or some kind of donation(like a \$1000 a month to print the Chamber of Commerce Newsletter) make up most of the attendees.

Reply

Judy Bingham

Flag as inappropriate

2:36 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

If the ones legally responsible are the Finance Director, City Manager, and "City Clerk who has an extra duty of care to certify all is true and accurate". Can someone explain why Karen Thompson, City Clerk, is only compensated \$894.00 per year? And the City Treasurer (Planning Director's husband) also receives \$894.00 per year in compensation ? Is this hush money ????

Reply

Karen Thompson

Flag as inappropriate

3:14 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Mrs. Bingham: This is Karen Thompson. Yes, I am paid \$75.00 a month as city clerk and then taxes are taken out of this amount. My Daughter does work at the city and has work there for years BEFORE I pulled papers and ran for city clerk and was voted into this position by the citizens of Beaumont. No it is not HUSH money, if you look back for years and years all elected city clerks are paid this amount. Also, I am at every city council meeting taking notes and doing my job as an elected city clerk and I have a full time job NOT with the city of Beaumont or any company that does work or contracts with the city. I am very offened that you would say such a lie about me. My family moved to this town over 60 years ago and I love our town. My husband even went to Hawaii with your son and husband and has been friends of them for years. In the future, if you would like to know something about me, please ask me directly.

Happy New Year

Flag as inappropriate

2:42 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

This is where that constant phrase, small town feel, keeps getting said, for to these families who belong to the small circle of people who have been in local government for decades, and on the receiving end of contracts from the city, it is indeed a small town. Never heard of management analyst. What's that pay?

Reply

Judy Bingham

Flag as inappropriate

3:00 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Nepotism, racketeering and corruption-- doesn't that describe the perfect mafia modeled organization ? They hold their business dealing very close. With no oversight for the past twenty years I can tell you these people have no shame !
It is now time to shine the light on their disgusting activities.

Reply

Judy Bingham

Flag as inappropriate

3:50 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Karen says:" In the future, if you would like to know something about me, please ask me directly."
OK , Karen--Why haven't you done the job you were elected to do? Sitting in a Council meeting like a zombie (emulating all the brainwashed Council members year after year) and collecting a

check is not doing what you were elected to do, is it? Where is your sense of fiduciary responsibility to the citizens of Beaumont? Karen, I have looked at the general ledger and the bank statements for the past two fiscal years. Have you? and would you like to borrow them? Do you need the name of a good attorney?

Reply

Lifer in Bmt.

Flag as inappropriate

6:34 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

If it;s so bad here in Beaumont, where's the FBI, Where's the State.

Judy you are off your rocker 90% of the time.

When you realize your Nursery is losing money, it is caused by your ramblings.

I was born & raised here, my kids live here & own homes here & this is a great place to live.

You need to get a life.

Dex

Flag as inappropriate

5:36 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Judy, I have been following the Beaumont drama for a couple of years now, and frankly, you are beginning to sound like a mental patient. I'm sorry for using that phrase, but your sometimes incoherent ramblings are getting a little old. Yes, I understand that you are probably beyond pissed off at what is going on around here. Yes, I agree that there are dozens of questions that need to be answered and the people in charge seem to keep dodging them. Yes, I believe that there is a level of corruption, or at least some inappropriate dealings, in our local city. I too would like some serious answers, and am tired of the way that the citizens are treated at council meetings. But to constantly be flinging mud and accusations on this blog is not helping with your credibility as a concerned citizen, and in some cases, is just downright mean and lacking in common manners.

Reply

margaret bragg

Flag as inappropriate

12:10 am on Wednesday, December 19, 2012

You say you "believe that there is a level of corruption, or at least some inappropriate dealings..." and yet you aren't irate, Dex? I can't understand why everybody isn't irate on a local level, a statewide level and a national level. Beaumont isn't alone in wasting taxpayer money, Beaumont isn't alone in manipulating taxpayer money to their own interests. Our government is bankrupting us, and we shouldn't feel any passion over that? I can't figure out why all Americans aren't sounding a little crazy, why all Americans aren't having a fit when this nonsense comes to light. I think Ms. Bingham comes across as the only one who took a civics class in High School and remembers what voter participation in government is all about. We can't just sit back and let elected officials or their staff function without supervision, and hope it all goes well for us. Exactly how did we get into this mess? We the people quit paying attention and governments everywhere know it. Ms. Bingham has been paying attention, is that wrong?

Jeremiah Price

Flag as inappropriate

7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Kind of interested in the \$1000 a day fines that were supposedly levied on the medical marijuana dispensary which was located on 6th St. for well over 6 months before it was closed. I am making no accusations and honestly don't know. Is anyone able to shed light on this? Were they actually levied and collected or was the dispensary "allowed" to operate by the city without paying them? The operators say they paid - does this show in the city books or did that money just disappear? And if it was shown, what was it used for?

Jeremiah Price

Reply

Ken

Flag as inappropriate

7:14 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Good question JP..and one asked a couple times..Still have no idea to the answer
Cheers

Good point Washy...Im still trying to wrap my pea brain around the notion that,

apparently, Oak Tree Alternative opened shop without the proper City paperwork. The City levied fines daily for Code and Business infractions. I've heard as much as \$1000 per day, altho that is unsubstantiated rumor. It seems after quite an extended period, and a multi-agency investigation, the Principles and underlings were served w/ search warrants, materials confiscated, the doors were finally shut. Have they or are they being prosecuted? I don't know. I believe the civil penalties levied by and collected by the City...well its hard to tell It appears Beaumont cut a check to Customs and Border Protection w/ notation Oak Tree Alternative....about the same time Oak Tree filed claim against the City

76245 07/06/2011 CUSTOMS AND 664,000.00 OAK TREE
BORDER PROTECTION ALTERNATIVE

Im not saying something improper was done, my concern is a check that size written out of a General Fund. It just seems odd

BMF2012

Flag as inappropriate

6:53 am on Wednesday, December 19, 2012

Ken- I also heard the fine was \$1000 per day and Alan Kapanicas was profiting off of that as much as 50%, or at least that is what one city employee told me at the time. Not all city employees like what is going on at city hall.

Ken

Flag as inappropriate

7:14 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012
(from a different blog)

Reply

Jeremiah Price

Flag as inappropriate

8:18 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

So if a check was written is there a corresponding entry showing who cashed it? and is there an entry in the "Customs and Border Protection" Agency books showing receipt of it? Also this concerns me - why would a fine collected by a city be paid to a state or federal agency? Something doesn't add up here.

Ken

Flag as inappropriate

10:04 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

I've not seen the actual check and entry ..Only the warrant copy approved by the City Council at scheduled meeting. I did email the Customs and Border Agency, and they said...
"Unfortunately, there is no way for me to trace that check here at this General Information Center. Our Accounts Payable department can be reached at 317-614-5001. I hope they can assist you."
...and thats as far as I got.

Reply

Jeremiah Price

Flag as inappropriate

10:46 pm on Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Thanks! Just seems real curious that the City of Beaumont would be collecting for a Federal Agency. Even more curious that the said Federal Agency let the dispensary stay in operation for over 6 months before acting. Funny I didn't see any DEA, only Beaumont Police from across the street at the coffee house when it was closed. That is another curiosity - why was a check made to Customs and Border Protection when the DEA handles drug enforcement? This gets screwier by the moment - and when in doubt always follow the money trail! Something stinks here, and so does the November 14th Maple St. bust where there were no arrests.

Jeremiah

Washy

Flag as inappropriate

5:01 am on Wednesday, December 19, 2012

Jeremiah only Beaumont shut down that collective the DEA had nothing to do with it's closure and it was open for about three years not six months

Reply

Jeremiah Price

Flag as inappropriate

7:14 am on Wednesday, December 19, 2012

I was pretty sure that was the case. Thank you!

Nancy Hall

Flag as inappropriate

9:16 am on Wednesday, December 19, 2012

Would be nice if a few on this blog, got more involved in the city business, so you could see for yourself. My experience in past years has proven to me the deceit and lack of respect certain council members and staff, have for the public. While the nepotism is an all time high, where were all you citizens to question it at the time of hire? BCRG spent \$\$\$\$ 100's of hours trying to wake up the citizens of Beaumont as to what was going on at city hall. No one would take the time to help us.

There are 100+ comments on this blog which is basically a rally between several. How about helping? We could not have won both the SLAPP suit and appeal if we didn't have our facts straight. The court agreed with us, our comments regarding Urban Logic and how they are running things at the city, is all based on public records. The same goes for whatever we say about council or rest of the staff. We are not making this stuff up folks.

Reply

Lifer in Bmt.

Flag as inappropriate

2:20 pm on Wednesday, December 19, 2012

Nancy, what's all this "WE", you dont even reside in Beaumont do you?

Nancy Hall

Flag as inappropriate

8:17 am on Thursday, December 20, 2012

Lifer in Beaumont can't you do better than that? I share a property line with the city, and our neighborhood Bolo Court, is bordered by the city on 3 sides and considered "in the sphere of influence". My school tax dollars go to Beaumont. You are being ridiculous.

Leave a comment

Submit >

Advertise

Advertise on Patch and reach potential customers in your backyard and beyond. Click here for more information.

[Learn more »](#)

Volunteer

If you want to help local causes, or your cause needs local help, your next click should be right here.

[Learn more »](#)

Contribute

- [Send us news tips](#)
- [Put an event on the calendar](#)
- [Announce something to everyone](#)

Patch Info

- [About Us](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Advertise](#)
- [About Our Ads](#)
- [Terms of Use](#)
- [Privacy Policy -](#)

UPDATED

Get in Touch

- [Go Patch!](#)
- [Help](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Patch Blog](#)

Patch Initiatives

- [PatchU](#)

Goodies

- [Patch Newsletter](#)
- [Widgets](#)



Enter your email

Sign Up

Close X

ns, events, and deals sent to you
s as it happens. [See more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)