

Friends of Carefree, grab an easy chair, this is a long one but an important one as well. I'll begin by stating that obstruction is a serious matter, whether perpetrated by elected officials, staff, commissioners, or legal counsel. This is especially true of attorneys, since they must be held to a higher standard. Three Public Records requests I filed on July 25th were met with delays and ultimately obstruction. First, I was told the town clerk was out on medical leave until the following Monday. Then, after no contact from the clerk at the start of that following week, I left a phone message for the clerk early Wednesday morning, 8/1, requesting a call back. It never came. What occurred was a series of email exchanges resulting in more delays and eventually denial of key information I requested. Apparently, the town attorney was reluctant to divulge his dealings with the term limits issue and details leading up to the suit by John Crane in his desperate attempt to retain a non-paying volunteer position on the council. Michael Wright claimed attorney/client privilege, forgetting that by being retained by the town he actually works for the residents. His vapid claim of privilege appears to have been outright obstruction, and possibly a ruse to hide complicity with the mayor to "get around" Term Limits. The town attorney is already under investigation by the State Bar, so I'm happy to provide more evidence for that investigation.

It is interesting to note that the mayor, clerk, and town attorney were tearing through files on Friday morning after my final demand for responses to my requests, and just prior to ballots reaching Carefree residents' PO Boxes. I sincerely hope no files were 'lost' during their frantic activities. I know, and they know, exactly what I was seeking with my requests. Apparently, there was information to find or hide. Also obvious is that no other member of staff is permitted to respond to a public records request, defying the often-repeated claim that staff are required to wear many different hats.

Later in this Newsletter I will print a thoughtful letter from Marcia Van Allen [[click here to go to that letter.](#)]. I'll also reprint email exchanges with the clerk [[click here to jump to that section](#)], the formal complaint by a west side developer against P&Z commissioner Hitchon [[click here to jump to that section](#)], and several emails I received from friends of the Peterson election campaign [[click here to jump to that section](#)], which will give you a view into the dark side of mayor Peterson and his campaign – smiles on the outside, nefarious deeds within. Before I get to that, and other information you should consider before voting, I will give a brief recap of the recent Council meeting. If you have followed council meetings this year, especially since May, you may have detected a not so subtle political undercurrent directed against mayoral candidate Mike Farrar.

If you don't believe there is a slate operating in Carefree, even a passing glance at the Peterson flyers and ads in the trash bins should be eye-opening. How can those other incumbent council members all agree on every single issue? Here is one perspective; Peterson, Crane, and Krahe were all P&Z commissioners – the Carefree training camp for slate ideology; Kroyer was a former neighbor of Peterson in the Boulders and half of the Peterson-Kroyer public relations team, and Hatcher just missed out being appointed to the P&Z when Peterson appointed another of his Boulders neighbors to that spot. No offense intended to Heather Burgett or her abilities, but a Peterson pattern is evident. The mayor told Hatcher not to worry, that he'd find a spot for him to help Carefree. Hatcher was later appointed to the Long Range Financial Planning Committee, in its 11th hour, then

subsequently appointed to take Councilman Jim Van Allen's seat on the council – another Peterson move to stack the council with supporters. Les Peterson has cultivated a Big City odor in our small-town government.

Let us not forget Les Peterson's use of the 'election water card'. The raw truth is Peterson ignored the water issue for years, not just last year! Apparently bad sewer smells in his Boulder's community was far more important to him than bad water for Carefree residents. This water issue is not a new discovery, he has known about this potential time bomb for years. Unless he is deaf, his 'supporters on the westside' had to be clamoring for attention to the issue. Can you imagine the westside mouth keeping quiet to Peterson? I can't. Les Peterson is a career PR guy, so once Farrar broached the subject with him last spring, he probably realized it could be a huge election issue, if he needed one. Well, he needed one. Who else could schedule two Carefree Water information meetings just before this election – and not call them campaign events? Don't fall for his election antics; *water is an issue – for everyone - regardless who is elected.* In my response to an impertinent Peterson supporter, reproduced later in this newsletter, I stated that I met with Tony Geiger last fall [*twice in fact*], at his request, and received the same briefing report and supporting document he had discussed with the entire Carefree Council individually, mayor included, before he ever spoke with me. He was seeking support for his water efforts, outside the administration, and knew my newsletter reached many Carefree residents. He told me Les Peterson promised to get the topic on the council agenda in October or November – that never happened. That too is the truth. BTW, Tony asked me to keep the information, and document, confidential until the town of Carefree went public. I kept my promise. BTW, I can understand why Tony wrote his letter about Peterson, the old 'a bird in hand' theory. In this case, when you open that hand look at all the unwanted baggage, empty storefronts, and the deserted town center you get along with the bird. *That should matter to all Carefree residents as well.*

Important notice from COINS today: If you haven't already received an early ballot, you likely have not registered to receive early ballots ***[or perhaps you are a registered Independent, as I am]***. Friday, August 17 is the LAST DAY to request an early ballot for the primary election. (Please note: You must request an early ballot from the Maricopa County Recorder at <https://recorder.maricopa.gov/earlyvotingballot/earlyvotingballotrequest.aspx>

If you are a registered Independent voter, you must request a ballot for one of the registered political parties to vote in the Primary* *[Or specify City/Town Elections, since Independent is not good enough.]

Town Council Meeting, August 7, 2018 at 5:00PM

Items 1 – 6, Consent Agenda: These items were all related to routine town business (meeting minutes, bills, financial reports, event permits, etc.). **Note:** As of 4:45PM on the meeting date, there were no meeting minutes for the prior council meeting (Item 2) or the Cash Receipts / Disbursements report (Item 4) included in the meeting packet available to the public. Councilman Farrar asked that #4 be held for discussion; all others were approved, 7 – 0. Councilman Farrar actually had questions about paid bills, not Cash Receipts / Disbursements. After discussion the final item was approved 7 – 0.

Item 7, Call to the Public: No one spoke.

Item 8, Current Events: None noted, not even the election?

Item 9, Financial Recap, April through June 2018: Information not available, deferred until the September council meeting, after the election.

Item 10, Presentation of the ‘Spotlight’ Award for the 4th of July Drone Show: Mr. Bob Huhn, Communications Director of the Maricopa County Air Quality Department (MCAQD) presented the ‘Spotlight’ Award to Ms. Rianna Riego, the Chief Branding Officer for CIVANA and to the Town of Carefree for the July 4th LED Drone Show. The award to Carefree was accepted by Les Peterson, providing Herbert Hitchon the opportunity to take his photo.

The Drone show idea was the brainchild of CIVANA Carefree. It was reported that over 30 million people throughout the United States and Europe were able to witness the event, which was planned and executed in 4 days.

Item 11, First reading of Ordinance 2018-02 regarding Storm Water Drainage: Required by Federal and State laws, the ordinance addresses release of illegal substances into the Town’s storm water drainage system. The final reading will be in September.

Item 12, 2018 Pumpkin Garden Update: The paid event organizer will expand this year’s event with either a petting zoo or pony rides, a larger kid zone, a haunted house, and concerts. Council member Kroyer added that a new theme, “Keep It Carefree” *[a takeoff on the long-standing phrase “Keep Carefree, Carefree”]* will be implemented on signs, banners, window stickers for merchants, and marketing materials. By separate votes, the liquor license and street closures were approved 7 - 0. *[It should be noted that our non-profit organizations are essentially cut out of the upcoming festival or will be required to pay a rumored \$1000 to participate in some way.]*

Item 13, Leadership Program: Resident Phil Corso presented his vision for a ‘Leadership Program’ which he suggested at the last council meeting. He stated that John Crane, Les Peterson, and Michael Krahe all contacted him after that last meeting to support his idea. Some initial legal requirements have been addressed, and Michael Krahe has volunteered to Chair a new committee and to lead the effort.

Item 14, Carefree Veteran’s Memorial: Council member Mike Farrar presented the committee’s progress on a Memorial to be constructed in the Desert Gardens. Although other members of the Town Council were originally in favor of a Veterans Memorial, some not on the committee had their own collective ideas of how it should be handled. John Crane thought it would be a good idea to hear from residents, especially veterans, and get their input. *[Apparently, he didn’t want to hear from voters who approved Term Limits since he trampled their opinion.]* A few other council members went along with that script, agreeing that “such a Memorial should be developed and brought forth from the community” *[a strange concept from the council slate that has routinely excluded Carefree business owners from participating in town ‘economic development’ and ‘marketing’ decisions for years, even damaging business by callous and exclusionary event planning.]*

There was already an established committee (with council members Farrar, Orrico, and Hatcher) planning the Veterans Memorial for months. They worked with the community veteran's organization (American Legion Post 34) which agreed to donate \$2,000 towards the memorial and assist in the design concept, as well as the Sonoran Art League via local sculpture artist Mark Carroll. Rare Earth Gallery also offered to donate the black onyx stone for the memorial. Simply put, this was another election season political setup by Crane and Peterson who wanted to remove Farrar from this project after he and fellow committee members had spent months organizing it. Since the agenda item was a 'presentation' only, no vote was required. But now, after the antics, the mayor gets to appoint yet another group to plan and develop the memorial, effectively cutting out his opponent from the process and setting up to take credit for the memorial as well.

Item 15, Executive Session: The mayor stated there was no need for the planned Executive session. *[Then why was it on the agenda, and why were two MCSO Deputies present? Late last evening I heard that the mayor was expecting some sort of shooting rampage, from me, imagine that! He must fantasize that I think about him all the time - I don't. Mayor Peterson, even I cannot imagine why you would stoop so low as to make that kind of horrendous accusation. Besides, why would you find it necessary at this stage of your reelection campaign to make such a desperate accusation, against anyone? Stress and worry can make weak people say and do really dumb things. Just look at the hate and manure being spread by Ms. Hitchon. Her recent hate-inspired publication should give good residents cause to ask why she is not already under observation. But enough about her, for now.]*

Item 16, Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:35PM.

If you have not as yet voted, please do consider casting your mayoral vote for Mike Farrar, and vote Gene Orrico for Council. I will not vote for any other incumbent council candidate because they do not respect Carefree voters and they tolerate repeated overreach from a certain NIMBY P&Z commissioner. Their goal is to get your vote and to keep their council seats, not listen to your thoughts or concerns. They have failed miserably in bringing prosperity back to Carefree town center, even after squandering away more than a million and a half dollars on 'marketing'. No voter is required to vote for every council seat, in fact doing so can inadvertently aid those who should not represent you because they don't care what you think, and they care even less about town core businesses. Over 20 businesses have failed since Les Peterson became mayor, including those highly touted by the mayor even before some opened their doors. An elitist attitude of 'we know what is best for everyone' has permeated town hall for far too long. Time for fresh air, a truly open government that listens to its citizens, and one that supports town center business people.

In a departure from not printing 'letters from readers' in this newsletter, I will display a few received from obvious Peterson supporters. The letters are both illuminating and intellectually consistent with the behavior of those illegally removing Farrar campaign signs from Private property in the dead of night throughout Town as well as those that demand, through threats of retaliation, that businesses take down signs of support for Farrar. I'll also display responses to my Public Records Requests from the Clerk (she copied the attorney on those responses), along with an example of how quickly and completely she

responds to far more complex and years-spanning requests she receives from the troubled P&Z commissioner, Lyn Hitchon, as well as the complaint from a developer to the town regarding the interference of that commissioner. Links to those sections were provided above and are available below:

[Letter from Marcia Van Allen.](#)

[Public Records Requests.](#)

[P&Z Trouble.](#)

[Peterson Supporters.](#)

Below you will find a letter from Marcia Van Allen. I believe her thoughtful comments capture the sentiments of the quiet majority of Carefree residents:



I redacted Marcia's email address because I know first-hand of the hate out there; she does not deserve the potential onslaught of Hitchon-esque writers.

My feelings should matter

I believe this community needs a concerted effort to reorganize and get back to basics and the things that made Carefree the town we all have loved. I know Jim expected trust, respect and the resident's knowledge and approval on town issues....I do not think our residents really know and understand what's really happening lately. Something is missing....and has been.....unclear messages, misinformation and flat out lies from town hall! Where do we go from here? Who can we trust? I believe we need to look elsewhere.....to understand other's initiatives and be open-minded to growth, leadership and the mindfulness of people truly interested in this town's welfare and understand the Town's initiatives.....do they really get it and are they knowledgeable, and do they really "care" about Carefree? I do, Mike Farrar does and so do many others..... Be informed and support him for Mayor..... it's time for some new thoughts, promises, and insight....a much needed change and new agenda! I support Mike Farrar and the promise of a new invigorated Carefree.... something we all deserve!

Marcia Van Allen

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Email exchange with Kandace French: Please note, the 3 Public Records requests were hand delivery the morning of July 25th.

Exchange #1 – Followed my phone call, with a voice message left for Kandace early Wednesday morning 8/1.

From: Kandace French <kandace@carefree.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 12:45 PM
To: John Traynor <John.Traynor@cox.net>
Cc: 'Wright, Michael W.' <mwright@shermanhoward.com>
Subject: Public Information Requests

John:

I am in receipt of the three (3) separate Public Information Requests that you submitted on July 25, 2018 while I was out of the office on medical leave as well as your follow up telephone message. The public information request for “...the most recent quarterly committee financial reports for Peterson, Crane, Krahe, and Kroyer...” will not be addressed. This information is required to be posted to Town and City websites and is readily available. It can be found at: <http://www.carefree.org/166/Required-Postings>

Candidate Kroyer is not required to file a quarterly report so there is nothing available.

As to the remaining two Public Information Requests – They were forwarded to the Town Attorney on Monday. He is reviewing the Sherman & Howard/Michael Wright invoices in our possession that may be applicable to those requests for legal review, direction and advice.

I will contact you as soon as that information becomes available.

Kandace French Contreras, CMC
Town Clerk/Treasurer
Email: kandace@carefree.org
Phone: 480.488.3686 **Fax:** 480.488.3845
PO Box 740, 8 Sundial Circle, Carefree, AZ 85377



Thu 08/02/18 8:47 AM

John Traynor <John.Traynor@cox.net>

RE: Public Information Requests

To 'Kandace French'

Cc 'gary@carefree.org'; 'mwright@shermanhoward.com'

Kandace, thank you for that information regarding the 'required postings' for political financial reports . Is this a new requirement? I ask because a number of years ago I

requested similar information from Betsy Wise and was pointedly told I needed to file a Public Records request, which I did.

As for the remaining two requests, I didn't ask the lawyer to review his billing, I asked you; you [the town of Carefree] are in possession of the invoices and correspondence. This is especially relevant because the attorney is the subject of the requests. A very wise President once said, "Trust but Verify". The CEO of a Fortune 100 company once told me personally, regarding staff, "trust what they say, audit what they do". Asking a mouse if it ate the cheese is inappropriate. If you insist, I will file another set of requests to be far more specific, although I believe you know exactly what I am requesting. Please advise me today if you determine that is necessary.

Contrary to your prior claims, I have never asked for immediate service. This time I am asking for a quick response given that my requests have been in possession of the Town since the morning of 7/25. I'm sorry you were out on medical leave, but the town cannot cease operating because an employee is not available for any reason. There are other administrative employees on staff. As the Town Attorney himself has said in a public meeting, 'this is time sensitive'.

I would also appreciate a return phone call when I leave a message for you to please do so. I was out of town without access to email until late last evening which is why I requested a return call. Not having received that phone call cost me another day and was discourteous. Please call me at 480-XXX-XXXX to provide your response(s) as soon as possible this morning.

Thanks,
John Traynor, Carefree resident

My Note: Kandace did not respond to my question in Paragraph 1 and did not respond as to whether I needed to submit more specific requests. Typical reactions – if they don't like the questions they simply ignore them.

Exchange #2

From: Kandace French <kandace@carefree.org>

Sent: Thursday, August 02, 2018 11:09 AM

To: 'John Traynor' <John.Traynor@cox.net>

Cc: gary@carefree.org; 'Wright, Michael W.' <mwright@shermanhoward.com>

Subject: RE: Public Information Requests

Your Public Information Request is being processed and will be produced as soon as reasonably possible.

The responsibility for processing public information requests lies with the Town Clerk and the town attorney, as necessary. No other town staff is available. The materials requested are being reviewed for attorney/client privileged information or legal advice, which, if any, is not disclosable.

Thank you for your patience.

My Note: Kandace thanked me for *my patience* yet overlooked the fact that on July 5th *she responded the same day* to Lyn Hitchon's request, a far more wide-reaching request which spanned 4 years and included correspondence between several individuals. Ms. Hitchon then used the results of that request *in an attempt* to discredit mayoral candidate Mike Farrar's support for addressing the water issue.

Kandace French Contreras, CMC

Town Clerk/Treasurer

8 Sundial Circle

P.O. Box 740

Carefree, AZ 85377

Office: 480.488.3686

Cell: 623.810.9040



Thu 08/02/18 11:30 AM

John Traynor <John.Traynor@cox.net>

RE: Public Information Requests

To 'Kandace French'

Cc 'gary@carefree.org'; 'Wright, Michael W.'

I do not enjoy being played Kandace. Be very careful about what you all decide is client privileged regarding Term Limits. I have no desire to lodge formal complaints, and have not done so to date, but I will not hesitate to contact any relevant oversight authority if you or anyone else hinders my request for relevant information. That is not a threat, it is my sincere promise.

My patience will be exhausted Friday, August 3, 2018.

Exchange #3

From: Kandace French <kandace@carefree.org>

Sent: Friday, August 03, 2018 12:33 PM

To: John Traynor <John.Traynor@cox.net>

Cc: gary@carefree.org; 'Wright, Michael W.' <mwright@shermanhoward.com>

Subject: Public Records Request - Production

Attached are the invoices from Sherman & Howard for May and June, 2018 which are produced in regard to two Public Information Requests dated July 25, 2018.

While you requested invoices and supportive documentation from April, 2017 through April, 2018 related to "Term Limits", there are no documents or invoices prior to the May and June, 2018 invoices attached. The invoices also satisfy your request for documentaion billed from Sherman and Howard, Michael Wright, or "any other attorneys" relative to defense of the "Crane lawsuit."

Your request for "supporting documentation" can not be provided as it is deemed "attorney/client" priviled and/or contains advice of council.

My Note: Routine consultation with the Town Attorney Michael Wright is covered in normal monthly billing to the town. It is my firm belief, based on statements made directly by the mayor, that the attorney was most certainly consulted and asked for advice regarding how to 'handle' John Crane's Term Limits problem. For further evidence, see the email from mayor Peterson dated August 10, 2017, below:

On Thu, Aug 10, 2017 at 12:11 PM, Mayor wrote:

Michael,

Let's move the topic of term limits in Carefree up to the front burner.

Attached in section 2-1-9 please find the term limit section of the current Carefree Town Code. I believe that this is more restrictive than the current State Statute pertaining to this subject.

Thanks,

Mayor Les Peterson

Town of Carefree, Arizona

480 488-3686 (Carefree Town Hall)

E-mails that board members or staff generate pertaining to the business of the public body are public records. Therefore, the e-mails must be preserved according to a records retention program and generally be made available for public inspection. The recipient of this message is hereby notified that participation in email discussions with this sender can and will result in all information contained therein being reviewed by any interested parties, including media outlets and reporters. To ensure compliance with the Open Meeting Law, Town Council recipients of this message should not forward it

Section 2-1-9 Limitation of Terms***

No person shall be eligible to be elected or appointed to the office of councilmember for more than three consecutive two-year terms, and no person shall be eligible to be elected or appointed to the office of mayor for more than three consecutive two-year terms. No person who serves as councilmember or mayor for five consecutive terms shall be eligible to hold either office until three years have elapsed.

ALP 11/16 S-7

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**Ordinance 84-2

***Approved by Voters on 3-8-2011

Kandace French Contreras, CMC
Town Clerk/Treasurer

Email: Kandace@carefree.org

Phone: 480.488.3686 Fax: 480.488.3845

PO Box 740, 8 Sundial Circle, Carefree, AZ 85377



Fri 08/03/18 3:20 PM

John Traynor <John.Traynor@cox.net>

RE: Public Records Request - Production

To 'Kandace French'

Cc 'gary@carefree.org'; 'Wright, Michael W.'; 'Mayor'

Your long-awaited response is inadequate, incomplete, and obstructionist.

There was most certainly consultation with the town attorney, both this year and last, regarding John Crane's situation with Term Limits and how to overcome that obstacle. The mayor personally admitted as much early last summer. He may be able to hide his involvement now, but he will have a far more difficulty under oath regardless of the election outcome. This issue speaks to character; his, the attorney's, and the town clerk's. This will not go quietly away.

Arbitrary assertion of attorney/client privilege can be and will be addressed via other avenues within the legal oversight system. Please keep all the files the three of you were examining earlier today safe and handy, they will be needed again soon.

Regrettably, I cannot thank you for your assistance, which was merely a hindrance and a delay.

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Here is a Hitchon twofer: 1) CEV Holding complaint against P&Z Commissioner Hitchon & Hitchon Supporting document in lawsuit by Crane:

- 1) Several months of effort and work by a developer with the Town staff and then the Planning & Zoning Commission ended abruptly in June when the developer, CEV Holdings, withdrew their proposal and filed a complaint against Ms. Hitchon. As the letter below will show, the developer claimed that because of Ms. Hitchon's lies and activities within the scope of her responsibilities as a town appointed P&Z commissioner they were denied due process. I suspect there are all sorts of financial and legal claims brewing as a result. Additional information has been requested from the developer. My Public Records request back in June covered only 2 business days prior to the council meeting. The CEV letter I obtained with that request can be viewed below.

No amount of crying and whining now by Ms. Hitchon will change the facts, and certainly attempting to blame Don Sorchych and the Sonoran News for her getting

caught is way off base. Ms. Hitchon routinely supported high-density developments outside the area of her westside residence. She whole heartedly supported two Keystone Homes developments, Almarte as well as the much larger Eastwood development on the eastside (Cave Creek Road near Pima Road). Hitchon not a NIMBY? In a pig's eye she's not. Here is the initial CEV letter:


ENCLAVE
CEV Holdings, LLC

8700 E Via De Ventura Suite 350
Scottsdale AZ 85258

Attn: Stacey Bridge-Denzak
Planning Director
Town of Carefree
P.O. Box 740, *
Sundial Circle
Carefree AZ 85377
RE: Case numbers, 17-01-RZ & 17-06-GP.

Dear Stacey

In light of the current circumstances and the information we have obtained regarding the negative and false statements that Commissioner Lynn Hitchon's has been communicating to the general public and residents about the Enclave at Carefree, we feel that do process has been altered and has prevented us from obtaining a fair presentation of our proposed project to the Town and the Town council.

Please let this letter serve as CEV Holdings legal notice that CEV Holdings is withdrawing its application at this time for Case number 17-01-RZ & 17-06GP and the project known as Enclave at Carefree.

We appreciated all the assistance the Planning Department has given us regarding this case.

Best regards



Michael Brown
Agent

- 2) Regarding alleged Lie #1, in the lawsuit filed by John Crane, to avoid Term Limits, Lyn Hitchon's argument in opposition to Term Limits was used by Crane's attorney. Two months later when asked if my newsletter could be used in a counter suit filed by Councilman Farrar I gave my permission. Ms. Hitchon may claim ignorance (easy to

understand) that her letter was used by Crane without her knowledge, but like most of what she claims, I don't believe her. She proclaimed that I lied about that submission; I did not, it was a document she authored and was included in the court documents which I obtained from Superior Court. That submission is provided below. She routinely publishes garbage about people she does not like. For example, she published that Mike Farrar doesn't own a home in Carefree, or that he is not a resident. Les Peterson apparently caught her lying disease when he claimed that Farrar was not registered to vote here in 2010 when he ran for some state office. It was Peterson who applied to fill a vacancy on the Arizona Corporation Commission while he was mayor of Carefree, his greener pastures fantasy. The real truth is that in 2010 Farrar was registered to vote in Carefree, at his home address *in* Carefree (copy of registration card available on request). But, who cares where he was registered in 2010? I wasn't registered in Carefree when I moved here in 2000! Maybe Ms. Hitchon, or her followers, should check where Mike Farrar went to pre-school because destructive evil minds can never go too far. Regarding lies #2 & #3 Ms. Hitchon accused me of, neither were my claims. Former Councilman Jim Van Allen claimed the town administrator was feeding her information, which I do believe. However, it was mayor Peterson who said John Crane edited her newsletters, not me. If Ms. Hitchon's claim to the contrary is true, then that would make the mayor the liar. Hopefully you can see the pattern here...

Here is the submission included in the Superior Court documents filed on behalf of John Crane's lawsuit against the town:

Arguments in favor of Proposition 421

No arguments in favor of Proposition 421 were submitted.

Arguments against Proposition 421

Proposition 421 seeks to impose term limits on the Carefree Town Council. Service on the Council is an unpaid position. Carefree is a small town, and the number of qualified people willing to volunteer for a Council position is limited. Should term limits be imposed, we could find ourselves losing good leaders, with no truly viable replacements.

Other than Jerome, Tombstone and Cave Creek, we are the only city or town in Arizona that does not have staggered four year Council terms. If the voters are displeased with a Council member, they can vote to replace that member after two years.

I believe that anyone who wishes to serve should be given the opportunity to run. Proposition 421 would limit the number of candidates. The voters are the winners when they have the maximum number of candidates from whom to choose.

Lyn Hitchon
Carefree Truth

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And finally, email I receive from a few of Les Peterson's supporters
In the interest of brevity (can I be serious about brevity after writing this edition?), I'll publish exchanges with just two Peterson supporters.

Exchange #1



Thu 07/26/18 6:23 PM

JACK COLLINS <JRBOBCOLLINS@hotmail.com>

Re: Carefree's Future Matters VIV, E6 V1 - Summertime, Election time, oh joy

To CFM

Cc John Lassen; nsparejr@aol.com



Off 😬 Peterson has been the best mayor Carefree has ever had ★★★★★



Thu 07/26/18 6:40 PM

John Traynor <John@CarefreesFutureMatters.com>

RE: Carefree's Future Matters VIV, E6 V1 - Summertime, Election time, oh joy

To 'JACK COLLINS'

Cc 'John Lassen'; 'nsparejr@aol.com'

Thanks for your comments Jack. Suffice it to say we disagree about the qualities and character of a good mayor. My personal experience with Les is clearly different from your own, and that is okay, because in this country, and even in Carefree, people are free to have their own opinions and are also free to express them. I am sorry you chose that specific manner to express yours.

Shall I remove you from my distribution list or would you like to read some additional facts early next week?

Thanks again for commenting,
John



Fri 07/27/18 9:27 AM

JACK COLLINS <jrbobcollins@hotmail.com>

Re: Carefree's Future Matters VIV, E6 V1 - Summertime, Election time, oh joy

To John Traynor

Cc JACK COLLINS; jlassen1@aol.com; Neil Spare; rjeverson@aol.com Evenson

DARK FORCE ACOLYTES , INDEED !! YOU SHOULD SEND YOUR WRITERS RESUME TO THE TRUMP FOLKS AT FOX news. THEY WILL NEED ALL THE HELP THEY CAN GET VERY SOON. YOUR CONSIDERABLE TALENTS AT THE ART OF " NEGATIVE SPIN " ARE OVER THE TOP FOR OUR PEACEFUL LITTLE LITTLE COMMUNITY. BC



Fri 07/27/18 10:04 AM

John Traynor <John@CarefreesFutureMatters.com>

RE: Carefree's Future Matters VIV, E6 V1 - Summertime, Election time, oh joy

To 'JACK COLLINS'

Cc 'jlassen1@aol.com'; 'Neil Spare'; 'rjeverson@aol.com Evenson'

Jack, thanks for writing again, and also for the 3rd note to opt-out.

I was polite and sincere in reply to your Hitchon-like vulgar first comment. Your second note was far more revealing as it clearly demonstrates your social and political orientation. Knowing that now explains quite a bit. The world of 'negative' spin is dominated by the liberal-progressive elements currently in control of the Democratic party, whose main thrust is if you can't refute it, attack it. It appears you are a similar practitioner.

Thanks for having been a reader although I don't believe I've ever heard from you before or even know you.

Your subscription removal is confirmed.

P.S. I have to tell you that, after giving the second part of your first comment more thought, I actually may tend to agree with you. Considering all the mayors we've had you just may have something. On a that scale Peterson might be close to the least worst.



Fri 07/27/18 10:17 AM

JACK COLLINS <jrbobcollins@hotmail.com>

Re: Carefree's Future Matters VIV, E6 V1 - Summertime, Election time, oh joy

To John Traynor

Cc JACK COLLINS; jlassen1@aol.com; rjeverson@aol.com Evenson; Neil Spare

I APPRECIATE THE OPT-OUT. I AM THE LIBERAL PROGRESSIVE "ELEMENT" :-)



Fri 07/27/18 12:55 PM

JACK COLLINS <jrbobcollins@hotmail.com>

Abuse of power and false claims

To CFM@CarefreesFutureMatters.com

Cc JACK COLLINS

Traynor, please send along your follow up mailing in a few days. I am sure it will be a great read. BC

My Note: I didn't reply because I already removed Jack from the distribution list and from my mind.

Exchange #2 - This exchange began with a comment form submitted on the CarefreesFutureMatters.com website on 7/31:

Name:

Mike and Kathy Johnson, Mike and Kathy Johnson

Email:

mjohnson520@comcast.net

Subject:

Carefree Water Extension to the 526 homes.

Message:

We noticed in the 7/26/2018 CFM issue, in the very snarky and persnickety rebuttals to Mayor Peterson's leadership roles, and nasty comments made about Lynn Hitchon, there was no mention of Mr. Farrar's position on the Carefree Water Committee's study for a process to move the rest of the Carefree residents onto the Town's water service. We want to know if the illustrious Mr. Farrar supports the move; no equivocation please - Yes or No? If he ends up being the one who left Carefree people behind with no water, as the drought worsens, we would suggest his future legacy will make Mayor Peterson look like a sainted boy scout based on the poisonous commentary CFM has penned. The legal battle between the WATER HAVES and HAVE NOTS will be very ugly and costly. We will not vote for any candidate that would deny Carefree residents access to their water system. This issue transcends all the campaign bullshit and he-said she-said crap.

From: John Traynor [<mailto:John@CarefreesFutureMatters.com>]

Sent: Monday, July 30, 2018 4:57 PM

To: mjohnson520@comcast.net

Subject: Website Comment Form

Thanks for your comments.

I'm sorry you feel the way you do about the Newsletter and my "very snarky and persnickety rebuttals to Mayor Peterson's leadership roles, and nasty comments made about Lynn Hitchon". My comments regarding Ms. Hitchon do not need any defending at all, so I'll ignore that part of your comment. Les Peterson in a leadership role? Les Peterson is an opportunist, the worst kind, a political opportunist. Your statements are tainted by the expectation of wanting something for nothing. Why do you think the incumbent mayor waited months to come out in favor of Carefree water for everybody? Clearly you don't recognize political gamesmanship when it presents itself at a public meeting where promises are made just weeks before a hotly contested election.

Freedom of speech is granted to all of us, some are more truthful than others, and some are more observant/realistic

Regards,

John



Mon 07/30/18 5:42 PM

Michael Johnson <mjohnson520@comcast.net>

RE: Website Comment Form

To: 'John Traynor'

Please answer the question put to you and Mr. Farrar. **Do you and he support moving the rest of the Carefree residents (approximately 526 homes, many voters) on to the Carefree water system – YES or NO? If NO, why not?** In addition to the right of free speech the public deserves direct and truthful answers to questions put to their elected officials or those for running for elected office. Many times those running for office and their publicists are less than truthful. The sword cuts both ways; we won't defend our comments to you or back to you. WE will not vote for Farrar if he opposes the above. Our comments to you were right on target and your reply is non-reply. We await yes or no.

Regards,

Mike and Kathy Johnson



Tue 07/31/18 10:25 AM

John Traynor <John@CarefreeFutureMatters.com>

RE: Website Comment Form

To 'Michael Johnson'

Cc Michael E. Farrar (farrar4mayor@gmail.com)

Mr. Johnson, you asked *me* if Mike Farrar supports the move, in your original message [We want to know if the illustrious Mr. Farrar supports the move; no equivocation please - Yes or No?]. Why ask a third party? Why use of the word “illustrious” which suggests a predisposition to dislike Mr. Farrar? If you are so genuinely interested in his answer I'd politely suggest that you ask Mike Farrar yourself. He is generally available at his campaign office in 100 Easy Street most mornings. Or you can contact him via email, farrar4mayor@gmail.com. Actually speaking with him might be best if you want truth from politicians. For the record, you didn't ask me that question so why would I have provided an answer?

I don't like the runaround either. I like the truth, not the political spin, that's why my positive opinion of Les Peterson changed from 3 years ago when he asked me to become a member of the Long Range Financial Planning Committee. Up to the point he dismissed the committee last fall, he never mentioned a 'water crisis', or a water study, or a water project, not on the west side or anywhere else in Carefree – that is the truth. I met with Tony Geiger last fall, at his request, and received the same briefing report and supporting document he had discussed with the entire Carefree Council individually, mayor included, before he ever spoke with me. He was seeking support for his water efforts, outside the administration. He told me Les Peterson promised to get the topic on the council agenda in October or November – that never happened. That too is the truth. BTW, Tony asked me to keep the information, and document, confidential until the town of Carefree went public. I kept my promise.

In April of this year, just as candidate packets became available for the August primary election, the town finally addressed the 'water issue' during the April 2018 council meeting. That was 7 months later than the Peterson promise, but just in time for him to take credit for leadership on the subject before the election. The council unanimously approved \$187,700 for an engineering study. The mayor has hosted two informational

meetings on the subject of 'Carefree residents on the Cave Creek water system' in July just prior to mail-in election ballots were due to be released. What a coincidence, huh?

Let me ask you a question Mr. Johnson. How much do you feel the town of Carefree should spend to provide you with Carefree water, \$5M, \$8M, \$10M, or whatever it takes?


The campaign material Les Peterson is releasing to the media demonstrates that he plays fast and loose with facts and essentially has delusions of grandeur; he has done everything except invent the Internet. The hero of July 4th did nothing more than sign a check in the amount of \$5,000 to help defray Civana's cost (which was substantially higher), at the 11th hour; Civana conceived the idea for the laser show and implemented it. There is truth and there is close to the truth.

I have nothing more to add and have no further interest in continuing our exchanges on this subject. Any further questions you have should be directed to Mike Farrar.

Regards,
John

From: Michael Johnson <mjohnson520@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 11:07 AM
To: John Traynor <John@CarefreesFutureMatters.com>
Subject: Re: Website Comment Form

Pompous ass. He can kiss mine.

 **Tue 07/31/18 11:31 AM**
John Traynor <John@CarefreesFutureMatters.com>
RE: Website Comment Form
To 'Michael Johnson'

Mr. Johnson, your most recent response suggests that facts and truth are not your cup of tea. Your motivation is obvious. You are clearly driven by your own self-interests. You would likely vote for the devil if he/she promised you anything you want. Look up the word "Pompous" and see how well it suits you.

Please feel free to continue sharing my replies with whomever you have BCCed. Perhaps facts and truth will be of greater importance to them.

My Note: Mr. Johnson never answered my question about how much he feels the town of Carefree should spend to provide him with Carefree water, \$5M, \$8M, \$10M, or whatever it takes? He should be aware that, even before the engineering study has been completed or reports issued, the mayor promised to get it done in 2 years – without knowing a thing about scope, or how much Cave Creek will request, per connection, to release their customers and the associated acre feet of cap water. We all want to do what's right, but a more sensible approach would be to hear what real experts have to say before buying votes.

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Respectfully submitted by John Traynor

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or
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Carefree, what life should be!

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