

September 16, 2003 Special Election Voter Pamphlet

Measure 24-106 : Aurora RFPD - Local Option Tax for General Operations and Capital Projects

Local Option Tax For General Operations and Capital Projects

Question:

Shall the Aurora RFPD impose a local option tax of \$.68 per \$1,000 for five years beginning 2003? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

Summary:

This measure may be passed only at an election with at least a 50 percent voter turnout. The Fire District will use the tax revenue from this measure for capital projects and general operations. The part for general operations would increase staffing from one person to three personnel. The part for capital projects would include the replacement of a 1974 Fire Engine, the replacement of a 1975 Fire Tanker, replace outdated airpacks and airtanks for firefighting, replace outdated defibrillators for medical calls, purchase a staff vehicle, and purchase property for facility improvements. The proposed rate would raise approximately \$275,885 in 2003-2004, \$284,162 in 2004-2005, \$292,686 in 2005-2006, \$301,467 in 2006-2007, \$310,511 in 2007-2008, for a total of \$1,464,711.

Explanatory Statement:

The Aurora Rural Fire Protection District was established in 1948. It covers 64 square miles of property and includes the Cities of Aurora and Donald. It was staffed exclusively by volunteers until 1995. At that time one paid employee was hired to do all of the maintenance, training, record keeping, and respond on calls as an Officer. We now have 47 Volunteer firefighters, who responded to 750 calls of service in 2002, and still only one full time employee. The District needs to hire two more full time employees to provide a safe level of operations.

For the safety of the District patrons and employees, we need to replace some outdated equipment and apparatus.

This includes replacing a 1974 Fire Engine, a 1975 Fire Tanker, outdated defibrillators and air packs.

Looking to the future, the District needs to purchase land for facility expansion.

A local option tax of \$.68 per \$1,000 of valuation would fund these necessary equipment replacements and staff increases.

Submitted by

Fred W. Netter

Aurora Rural Fire Protection District

Measure 24-107 : City of Turner - Recall of Dave Phillips, Council Member

PETITIONERS' STATEMENT: (Exactly as stated on Recall Petition)

DAVE PHILLIPS and other Council members fired the City Manager without cause on June 26th.

Very recently the council gave Mr. Spies a good evaluation, a 3-year contract, a raise, and this following good ratings over his tenure.

These councilors violated TRC Section 2.06.10 by taking this action during "other business".

"Action shall not be taken until a subsequent meeting unless deemed urgent". The reason this is in our code is to give citizens notice, allowing them a chance to respond. Action was not deemed urgent by the council and was acted upon anyway. Citizens were not allowed to respond nor was Mr. Spies given a chance to defend himself against unsubstantiated claims made by councilors.

The city has lost considerable monies due to severance pay and other associated costs of firing without cause. The cost of a temporary Manager will likely be more costly than paying a permanent Manager. A lawsuit against the City would also be very costly.

These councilors have given no justification for costing the citizens this money. They have continually advanced their own personal agendas with complete disregard for the consequences.

This spontaneous dismissal flies in the face of fairness and proper personnel practices.

STATEMENT OF JUSTIFICATION: (Exactly as submitted by David Phillips)

I was elected to the Turner City Council with more votes than my opponents. This mandate was a clear signal that voters want a change in the direction of city government. This attempt at a recall is an effort to reverse those voter wishes and is aimed at personality rather than performance.

My family and I have resided in Turner for more than 10 years. I own and manage an auto repair and towing business in the city. I understand how Turner functions and wanted to see a change in city policies.

With raising six children, I am truly aware of the safety and schooling needs of this town. I am also aware of the activity needs of this town. We have worked for proper management of Burkland Pool, the addition of a BMX bike track in Turner Park along with moderate growth in our bedroom community.

By the way I have voted since taking office, you have seen that I have done everything possible to improve Turner. Voters should also be supportive of these values and reject this attempt to turn back the clock and undo their Nov. 2002 voting decision.

Please vote "NO" on the recall.

Measure 24-108 : City of Turner - Recall of Soosie Sullivan, Council Member

PETITIONERS' STATEMENT: (Exactly as stated on Recall Petition)

SOOSIE SULLIVAN and other Council members fired the City Manager without cause on June 26th.

Very recently the council gave Mr. Spies a good evaluation, a 3-year contract, a raise, and this following good ratings over his tenure.

These councilors violated TRC Section 2.06.10 by taking this action during "other business".

"Action shall not be taken until a subsequent meeting unless deemed urgent". The reason this is in our code is to give citizens notice, allowing them a chance to respond. Action was not deemed urgent by the council and was acted upon anyway. Citizens were not allowed to respond nor was Mr. Spies given a chance to defend himself against unsubstantiated claims made by councilors.

The city has lost considerable monies due to severance pay and other associated costs of firing without cause. The cost of a temporary Manager will likely be more costly than paying a permanent Manager. A lawsuit against the City would also be very costly.

These councilors have given no justification for costing the citizens this money. They have continually advanced their own personal agendas with complete disregard for the consequences.

This spontaneous dismissal flies in the face of fairness and proper personnel practices.

STATEMENT OF JUSTIFICATION: (Exactly as submitted by Soosie Sullivan)

When voted into office, I knew that making decisions for the citizens of Turner was not always going to be easy. I have always acted for the betterment of the community for today and the future; my decisions were never made because of an agenda or for personal gain.

Here is a summary of my positions and activities as your City Councilor: I supported funding for the "Child Identification Kits." I also volunteered for this project which eventually resulted in the fingerprint identification of more than 300 of the community's children.

I serve on the Park Master Plan Committee which is mandated to create a more enjoyable surrounding for our city's children.

I serve on the negotiating committee which will try to gain benefits from Calpine toward funding city improvements if a site permit is granted.

My personal mission for the City of Turner is to negotiate with Calpine to acquire the most we can for our community, to make Turner Park a safe place for our children and a show place for this town, and to provide 24-hour police protection.

I hope you vote with me in rejecting the recall by voting "**NO.**"

Measure 24-109 : City of Turner - Recall of Jim Thompson, Mayor of Turner

PETITIONERS' STATEMENT: (Exactly as stated on Recall Petition)

JIM THOMPSON and other Council members fired the City Manager without cause on June 26th.

Very recently the council gave Mr. Spies a good evaluation, a 3-year contract, a raise, and this following good ratings over his tenure.

These councilors violated TRC Section 2.06.10 by taking this action during "other business".

"Action shall not be taken until a subsequent meeting unless deemed urgent". The reason this is in our code is to give citizens notice, allowing them a chance to respond. Action was not deemed urgent by the council and was acted upon anyway. Citizens were not allowed to respond nor was Mr. Spies given a chance to defend himself against unsubstantiated claims made by councilors.

The city has lost considerable monies due to severance pay and other associated costs of firing without cause. The cost of a temporary Manager will likely be more costly than paying a permanent Manager. A lawsuit against the City would also be very costly.

These councilors have given no justification for costing the citizens this money. They have continually advanced their own personal agendas with complete disregard for the consequences.

This spontaneous dismissal flies in the face of fairness and proper personnel practices.

STATEMENT OF JUSTIFICATION: (Exactly as submitted by Jim Thompson)

I voted to release Charles Spies as City Administrator for a number of reasons including a serious breakdown in credibility. Retaliation by recall is the proposed remedy. The Oregon Constitution allows voters to recall elected officials but no reasons are required. The only opportunity for rebuttal is with their constituents. A review of ALL of the facts should be made before voting.

You're told the Council failed to consider just cause when it took its action. The Turner City Charter says, "**A majority of the council shall appoint and may remove the administrator.**" It also says "**The administrator shall be appointed for a definite or an indefinite term and may be removed by the council at its pleasure.**" The Employment Agreement the City had with Mr. Spies said "**Nothing in this agreement shall prevent, limit, or otherwise interfere with the right of the City Council to terminate the services of Mr. Spies at any time.**" "**The City retains the right to terminate the services of Mr. Spies with or without cause.**"

The council's action was consistent but those who disagree want to escalate the confrontation with recall proceedings. It appears personality rather than performance is their issue.

Measure 24-110 : City of Turner - Recall of Jeff Long, Council Member

PETITIONERS' STATEMENT: (Exactly as stated on Recall Petition)

Jeff Long and other Council members fired the City Manager without cause on June 26th.

Very recently the council gave Mr. Spies a good evaluation, a 3-year contract, a raise, and this following good ratings over his tenure.

These councilors violated TRC Section 2.06.10 by taking this action during "other business".

"Action shall not be taken until a subsequent meeting unless deemed urgent". The reason this is in our code is to give citizens notice, allowing them a chance to respond. Action was not deemed urgent by the council and was acted upon anyway. Citizens were not allowed to respond nor was Mr. Spies given a chance to defend himself against unsubstantiated claims made by councilors.

The city has lost considerable monies due to severance pay and other associated costs of firing without cause. The cost of a temporary Manager will likely be more costly than paying a permanent Manager. A lawsuit against the City would also be very costly.

These councilors have given no justification for costing the citizens this money. They have continually advanced their own personal agendas with complete disregard for the consequences.

This spontaneous dismissal flies in the face of fairness and proper personnel practices.

STATEMENT OF JUSTIFICATION: (Exactly as submitted by Jeff Long)

In my opinion Mr. Spies misrepresented the interests of the community. Some of the specific issues are:

- 1) Told former property owner, without Council authorization, the City would take condemnation action if the owner refused to grant the City rights-of-way. This led to the owner selling to a developer.
- 2) Approved issues related to the Calpine application contrary to the City's land use rules, without seeking approval of the Council or the Planning Commission.
- 3) Telling the Council on numerous occasions that if it authorized Staff to pursue an enterprise zone on Calpine's behalf the Council could withdraw at any time. When the council considered withdrawal Spies said it was legally too late to do so.
- 4) Allowed total clear-cutting in the Well's subdivision, after telling Council and Planning Commission the only trees to be cut were for street location.
- 5) His continual attempt to control the council, planning commission and committees, is direct violation of Turner's City Charter.

When elected to the Council, voters didn't state I'd have to vote the way certain people demanded, but it now appears that's why I'm on the recall ballot.