Kenneth Hetge

City Council Candidate 2016

333 S. Dennison Rd. #65, Tehachapi CA 93561

RECEIVED
AUG 15 2016
City of Tehachapi

City Council Members Nixon, Smith, Grimes, Wiggins & Wahlstrom

August 15, 2016

City Attorney, Mr. Thomas Schroeter

City Manager, Mr. T. Greg Garret

California Fair Political Practices Commission

Kern County Elections Department

RE: Complaint against the City of Tehachapi and certain City Employees

The City of Tehachapi has allowed and continues to allow their Community Outreach Coordinator (Executive Position reporting directly to the City Manager) to make disparaging comments toward a single candidate who has filed all legal instruments to run for one of the two open City Council positions on the November ballot.

The disparaging comments were made and continue to be made on a Public Face Book Page called "Tehachapi for Wal-Mart" and began simultaneously with the formal closing of the filing process for City Council on August 11, 2016, and required paperwork being submitted and accepted by the City of Tehachapi. Ironically, no public or formal announcement of the candidate's information has been provided to the community so any information on the campaign efforts of any candidate could have only been discussed internally by City Staff.

The essence of the Community Outreach Coordinator position and the knowledge of this specific person holding said position as promoted in the community, creates an immediate tie to the City of Tehachapi and implies the disparaging comments are condoned by the City.

The City of Tehachapi does have an internal "Social Media Policy", however has failed to recognize any such comments made by any person holding a high visibility position such as the Community Outreach Coordinator, if either in support of or disparaging to a potential candidate for elected office, will have undisputed consequences on the outcome of a small town, local election. This position, which continues to promote disparaging commentary in a non-partisan election is viewed by the public as speaking on behalf of the City of Tehachapi.

The Facebook page in question is currently viewed by 950 individuals in our community, which currently has roughly 4,000 registered voters. Disparaging commentary against anyone, while coming from a City Employee of immediate recognition, could create a bias that no candidate could overcome.

I urge this City Council, Kern County and the California Fair Political Practices Commission to take immediate and decisive action against the City of Tehachapi for allowing their employees to involve themselves in the electoral process.

Sincerely,

Kenneth R. Hetge

Candidate for City Council 2016, City of Tehachapi

(661) 822-2827 business

(805) 508-3912 cell

Attachments: 5 pages

Tehachapi for Wal-Mart

August 13 at 8:30pm · Tehachapi, CA

SAY NO TO TEHACHAPI FIRST!

Like Comment Share

53

Chronological

26 shares

View 20 more comments

Michael Stever No - Tehachapi First

Steve Susan Jackson Michelle Mendoza Vance where do you get your information from?

Like · Reply · 18 hrs

Michelle Mendoza Vance Steve Susan Jackson attend every city council meetings...

Like · Reply · 1 · 17 hrs

Michelle Mendoza Vance Karen Townson McCormick

outsiders. The term is still used today to refer to a parachute candidate, an outsider who runs for public office in an area where they do not have deep community ties, or have lived only for a short time.

Like · Reply · 1 hr

Michelle Mendoza Vance Steve Susan Jackson who are you?? You don't know me? I have dedicated thousands of hours volunteering for my community and have served it to the best of my ability!! I love this town and #TehachapiRocks except Ken is totally against progress and I know that for a fact!!

Like · Reply · 1 · 2 hrs

Write a reply...

Michelle Mendoza Vance Yeah.. This candidate doesn't really live in the city... Carpetbagger!!!And he IS pretty much against EVERYTHING!!! So do you believe he REALLY went from living in a 2,000 plus sq foot home to a single wide mobile home?? Yeah NOT!!!!

Like · Reply · 1 · 5 hrs

Larry Barrett Sadly, there are many inaccuracies in this thread. The truth will all come out, in due time. Meanwhile, personally, I am chompin' at the bit for Walmart to break ground. See you folks at the Grand Opening!!!

Like · Reply · 3 · 5 hrs

Nancy Williams Sure would like to see this separation in the community end. There will always be disagreements in our community. Deal with it by focusing your attention on building a strong community. We all should be thankful for this city, I feel blessed to live, own my home and have dear friends here. Walmart or not, it doesn't effect your own life. Peace!

Like · Reply · 2 · 3 hrs

Michelle Cole Walmart will bring undesirable people but half a dozen Dollar stores are ok!?! I just don't understand. 😜

Like · Reply · 2 · 2 hrs

Write a comment...

Tehachapi for Wal-Mart shared Walmart's video.

August 12 at 10:11pm ·

Not.

Like · Reply · 9 · 14 hrs

Karen Townson McCormick This is an inaccurate ad, in my opinion. Don't believe everything you read! Please be open to hearing what this candidate has to say before rushing to judgment about what he stands for and against.

Like · Reply · 1 · 6 hrs

Sue Holets-Kennedy Thornton You all need to face the fact things are changing in our lives, nothing will ever be what you remembered as a child or young adult. Gas prices will continue to rise so driving elsewhere will cost more money. I pay twice the amount for things here in Te... See More

Like · Reply · 5 · 5 hrs

Michelle Mendoza Vance Yeah.. This candidate doesn't really live in the city... Carpetbagger!!!And he IS pretty much against EVERYTHING!!! So do you believe he REALLY went from living in a 2,000 plus sq foot home to a single wide mobile home?? Yeah NOT!!!!

Like · Reply · 2 · 5 hrs

Karen Townson McCormick Name calling is unbecoming. Ken is definitely not a carpetbagger. Just to be certain, I googled the definition. Saying Ken is a carpetbagger is like saying black is white or vice versa. Not nice.

Like · Reply · 1 · 4 hrs

Steve Susan Jackson Great response Karen Townson McCormick, Michelle Vance HAS NO REASON TO say anything about Kenneth Hetge. She is one to talk WITH EVERYTHING WHAT HER AND HER business associates have done and gotten away with here in Tehachapi!

Unlike · Reply · 1 · 3 hrs

Michelle Mendoza Vance Steve Susan Jackson who are you?? You don't know me? I have dedicated thousands of hours volunteering for my community and have served it to the best of my ability!! I love this town and #TehachapiRocks except Ken is totally against progress and I know that for a fact!!

Michelle Mendoza Vance Steve Susan Jackson who are you?? You don't know me? I have dedicated thousands of hours volunteering for my community and have served it to the best of my ability!! I love this town and #TehachapiRocks except Ken is totally against progress and I know that for a fact!!

Like · Reply · 2 · Yesterday at 10:31am

Steve Susan Jackson Michelle Mendoza Vance...don't you just hate corruption in our city government? Vote for Ken and help stamp out this problem.

Unlike · Reply · 4 · Yesterday at 11:53am

Michelle Mendoza Vance Steve Susan Jackson so uninformed.. Do you have any facts?? Oh you mean buying a single wide mobile home and not living there? Take a big gulp of the Ken Cool-Aid

Like · Reply · 22 hrs

Steve Susan Jackson Thank you Michelle Mendoza Vance for letting us know that "The Tehachapi News" is printing lies about our city government, as that's how we get our "facts"!

Like · Reply · 21 hrs

Michelle Mendoza Vance Steve Susan Jackson huh?? What did I miss.. Last I read the city is doing great..

Like · Reply · 21 hrs · Edited

Tehachapi for Wal-Mart Babbling non sense.

Like · Reply · 1 · 21 hrs

Steve Susan Jackson Michelle Mendoza Vance where do you get your information from?

Like · Reply · 21 hrs

Michelle Mendoza Vance Steve Susan Jackson attend every city council meetings...

Like · Reply · 1 · 20 hrs