



City of Harrisburg

Martin Luther King Jr. Government Center
10 North Second Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

The City is releasing a document entitled "Things Council Needs To Know." It is a diatribe, pitched via email to the City Council as being from "an Anonymous" source from outside the City. That was not true.

This letter being released is in the possession of the City, but it is not a document created on behalf of the City or adopted by the City of Harrisburg and should not be taken as such.

The letter was sent via email to the City Clerk on June 17th by the City's then-Communication Director, Mischelle Moyer. She first advised them it was received through an informational City email submission available for public questions, reports, or requests. It was not. City electronic records revealed the document was created by Ms. Moyer on her City Computer two hours before she sent it to the Clerk. A digital search found no evidence of any such complaint being received on the City's general informational email or through Ms. Moyer's City email or text messages.

The City's legal determination was made that the document does not qualify as a public record under the Right To Know Law. It is being released anyway, at the direction of Mayor Williams, as its contents have been the source of reckless speculation.

The rant hit several topics. It directly attacked several City employees by name and ended in an acronym for a vulgarity. It complains about the well-publicized issue of additional funds being needed, at the cost of \$1.9 million, in order to complete three (3) park projects after a grant funding clock ran out. Spending those additional funds prevented the City from forfeiting roughly \$8 million in grant dollars, as incomplete projects would be ineligible for reimbursement under the grant. That issue was publicly introduced at City Council on June 12 and publicly presented to and discussed before the City Council the evening before this letter was sent. The reappropriation was later unanimously approved by City Council.

As Council President Hill already publicly stated to the media, City Council was already aware of issues raised in the letter.

The letter states that pay raises were given to four City employees, which did not occur. Raises were proposed for some of the named employees, but ultimately were not approved. It also inaccurately names one City employee as part of the Parks projects who does not work for Parks and Recreation Department and has no connection to those projects.

The letter references bringing back a past Finance Director to assist with next year's budget preparations, ignoring that the Budget Manager role has been vacant for more than six months. The proposed contract and a budget reallocation to fund the temporary contract for those services had been publicly introduced at the City Council session on June 9th and publicly discussed on June 12th. Both items were later approved by the Council.

Additionally, the letter tosses in gossip that also disparaged two other City employees about a dispute at a weekend festival; provided snarky name-calling comments about a member of Senior Management; and again, signed off with no name, but just a vulgarity. All of that says more about its author than anyone else.