

### **Public Testimony #1**

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am personally urging your support for the policy recommendations in the Affordable Housing Standards Update as reasonable, positive yet modest steps forward in Ashland's effort to address the critical shortage in affordable housing.

Recently I have volunteered to survey local folks about fair housing issues, and I was reminded over and over again of the public awareness and concern for the critical shortage of affordable housing in our community. Most of those I talked with reinforced our civic imperative to make Ashland's housing policy more robust and prioritized. This is central to our ability to address race, inequality and inclusion. I hope you will in supporting this update take it as only a modest first step in building toward a more just and diverse community

Rich Rohde

### **Public Testimony #2**

Please enter into the Public Record for July 20 & 21 meetings.

Attention City of Ashland Leaders,

I am strongly stating my disagreement at the recent decision by our current sitting Mayor of Ashland, to deny the people of Ashland an appropriate executive search, a proper vetting and hiring process for the most qualified City Manager candidate who will get the city of Ashland back on a sound financial footing. All this, even after the citizens of Ashland unanimously voted for this change to a professional City Manager/Council form of government back in May.

This is another example how Mayor Stromberg and council have no intention to listen to the citizens of Ashland when they do not align with their ideas. As a tax paying citizen of Ashland, I DESERVE to see a proper process take place when choosing our city manager, not chosen by an outgoing mayor. I want to hear from the Mayoral and City Council candidates on their vision of Ashland, not from an outgoing Mayor trying to maintain some sense of his own power on the way out of the office.

Adam Hanks should remain as acting City Administrator and let the newly elected mayor and council perform a deliberate search for a highly qualified City Manager candidate. As part of that process, Adam can certainly throw his hat into the ring and compete for the job based on his qualifications and merits. I want a proper vetting process and an excellent New City Manager hired by those serving us in January.

Furthermore, I am concerned for any conflict of interest Mr. Hanks may have by his wife and family members employed by the city. Besides that most of America's governments, corporations, and small businesses have had to cut back their payroll or let employees go in some form, Ashland has increased their salaries and now you want to short circuit any normal search processes for a City Manager by hiring Mr. Hanks, Interim City Administrator, for the City manager position with a three-year contract and a two-year severance provision. This is an outrageous move by Mayor Stromberg and I am against it.

Thank you,

Meredith Page

**Public Testimony #3**

Full Name: **Daniel Bowman**

Subject: **July 20 & 21 City Administrator contract**

Message: **I am shocked to learn that the Mayor and council are considering offering Mr. Hanks a multi-year contract with severance clause. This is obviously a parthian shot, loosed in response to the recent failure of the bond issue, and is a disgusting abuse of power and pettiness. The Mayor and council have underestimated the anger and frustration in Ashland and seem to believe they can continue to act with impunity. Ashland will tolerate such actions no more.**