



ELECT

EARNESTINE D. PITTMAN

WARD C at- Large

VOICE FOR THE PEOPLE

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If there is **ANYONE BUT PITTMAN**, who can show you the folly of Mayor and Council concerning the Community Development Building Grant (CDBG) funding for Waterpipe Infrastructure Upgrades instead of using the funding for Minimum Housing Code Improvements, let them. Otherwise, keep Reading!

At the September 7, 2021, Council Meeting, Mayor and Council Voted to approve **\$200,000** CDBG 2020 funding for Phase 1, 4" Waterpipe Infrastructure Upgrade, and **\$152,700** CDBG 2021 funding for Phase II, 4" Waterpipe Infrastructure Upgrade for a total of **\$352,700**. Mayor and Council had two opportunities to do something to help some residents that would have had a "tangible benefit" for the City. It never entered their minds.

Mayor and Council decides how they want to spend the Federal CDBG funding. This is the only consistent Grant money that cities get. It is also, the only Grant money that East Point can legally use for Minimum Housing Code Improvements. Up until 2012, CDBG funding was the sole source of funding for Minimum Housing Code Improvements by the City. East Point transferred the Minimum Housing Code Improvements Program to Fulton County Government after abolishing the East Point Minimum Housing Board in East Point. **I** served on the Minimum Housing Code Board until 1991, and **I** was **Mayor** in 2012 when the Mayor and Council Voted to use the money to build Pocket Parks and Park Restrooms. Although, the Pocket Parks and Restrooms were needed, I have never stop advocating for reinstating CDBG funding for the Minimum Housing Code Program.

It is not too late for Mayor and Council to correct their grave and uncaring mistake. They can **MATCH** the **\$352,700** Grant amount without jeopardizing any needed projects or cutting any Department's Budget under the Supervision of the City Manager. Mayor and Council has more than **\$352,700** in their Budgets that can be transferred to the Non-Departmental Account for the Minimum Housing Code Improvements Board that they need to create to cover expenditures for:

1. New roofs
2. Plumbing
3. Gutters
4. Windows
5. Doors
6. Flooring
7. Hallway and Bathroom entries for Wheelchairs
8. Electrical wiring systems

9. Heating/Cooling systems
10. Hot water heaters and installation
11. Tree cutting and removal.

The City Council and Committees Budget has **\$284,200** in gratuitous spending for Wed. Wind Down; Food give -aways; Silver Fox Ball, Youth Council Initiative; Holiday Expo; Halloween Festival; Special Events and Flower Arrangements; Jazz Festival; Black History Program; Golden Age Resource Fair; Christmas Jingle; and M. L. King Day Service.

The Council Members Ward Accounts Budget has **\$109,950** in Other Professional Fees. The Mayor's Budget has **\$62,936.84** in excess salary for her and one Executive Assistant. This is only one item.

At last night's Council Meeting, Mayor and Council VOTED to Approve the Ferguson Group Contract for Federal Lobbying Services Not to Exceed **\$72,000** on the CONSENT AGENDA! Are they out of their ever-loving minds? If the Democrats can't get their bills passed, who is going to listen to some Group representing East Point to get WHAT? Haven't they learned that fools and their money are soon parted?

The combined total for all three Budgets' excesses totaled **\$447,086.84** plus the **\$72,000** for lobbyist equals **\$519,086.84**. Clearly this is way more than the **\$352,700** in CDBG funding. It also a **FLAMING RED FLAG OF WASTE!!**

It is time to **CHANGE** the make-up of this Mayor and Council in the Upcoming November Election!

NOTE: At last night's Council Meeting, Mayor and Council Voted APPROVAL on the CONSENT AGENDA for: "Urban Redevelopment Agency Resolution Amending Language Referencing the term Slum". First, NO Ordinance or Resolution can be Voted on, on the CONSENT AGENDA. Secondly, NO Ordinance or Resolution can be Amended on the CONSENT AGENDA. Thirdly, Any Ordinance or Resolution that is Amended has to have a Reading before the Public, meaning the Public must have had an opportunity to Read and Comment on the Ordinance or Resolution Amending the Language. BRING it Back in the proper form and on the Council Agenda!