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(404) 344-3710

September 15, 2022

If there is **ANYONE BUT PITTMAN** who told you this, thank them.

**The Mayor and/or various Council Members have been extremely busy:**

- 1. Spending taxpayers money for Entertainment Events with no legal authority to create said Events or accounting for the expenditures.**
- 2. Using the City's Public Information Office with no legal authority as the marketing editor for Private Businesses.**
- 3. Promoting Training Positions and Program with no legal authority.**
- 4. Promoting Private Business opportunities with no legal authority at the expense of the taxpayers.**
- 5. Rehiring and hiring staff without legally posting the positions.**
- 6. Using City property without legal authority.**

The Residents of the City are becoming increasingly concerned and angry about how Mayor and Council are allowing taxpayers money to be spent with no tangible benefit to them or the City. They are definitely concerned about the **spending** of the **\$13+ million of the Federal Rescue Relief Funding**. I will be writing a series of Email Newsletters to keep the residents aware of what is going on so that you can help to resolve the problems with Mayor and Council or by any legal means. I will be addressing each of the items above with City documents in separate Email Newsletters.

**#1: Spending taxpayers money for Entertainment Events with no legal authority to create said Events or accounting for the expenditures.**

East Point resident, **Napoleon Black** read the following to Mayor and Council at the September 6<sup>th</sup> Council concerning the Wednesday Wind Down Events. He stated that:

**Open records request revealed that from March 2022 up to July 2022 the City paid \$174,500 out of the general revenue fund for WWD entertainers. This amount does not include the additional expenses for city staffing, police overtime, or any other related services for the event; the August WWE expenses were not included in these figures.**

**We have could have better used this money for the following:**

- 1) Hired 3 certified police officers or firefighters at a \$55,000 salary. (Starting salary [www.eastpointcity.org](http://www.eastpointcity.org) 2022)
- 2) We could have provided 1,745 low-income residents with a one-time \$100 credit on their EP utility accounts.
- 3) Installed 206 new LED streetlamps to the vacant light poles. (USDOE average street LED lamp cost \$845 each.)
- 4) Repainted 55 miles of lane stripes on our major roads with the durable reflective thermoplastic paint that can last up to 8 years. (USDOT Average cost of .60 cents per linear foot.)
- 5) We could have hired (96) young adults aged (14) to (17) part-time, 20 hours per week for 12 weeks over the summer. (Based on a minimum wage of a (\$7.50) hourly wage.
- 6) We could have trimmed and removed approximately 218 batches of tree branches from around power lines and streetlamps. (Based on Asplundh cost estimate of \$800 per area trim)
- 7) We could have provided summer day camp for 363 children for 8 weeks. (Based on 2022 Fulton County Fulton Fresh Summer Kids Camp)

None of this money spent had no economic or safety benefit the for the residents of this city.

It is sad but true. There are no Minutes showing that Mayor and Council ever created a legal entity to deal with Wednesday Wind Down, therefore any monies spent and any in-kind City staff services were illegal expenditures and Mayor and Council need to **TELL** the Residents **WHO authorized those expenditures!** Since 2019, **the City has spent an estimated \$2 million on Wednesday Wind Down. Below are Open Records Responses for accounting information concerning Wednesday Wind Down. Several of the emails below have attachments with some of the many expenditures that can be found on my website by Clicking on Documents and locate the ones with Wednesday Wind Down as well as Articles concerning Wednesday Wind Down.**

#1

**Keshia McCullough (East Point, GA)** <[eastpointga@justfoia.com](mailto:eastpointga@justfoia.com)>

To: [edpittman26@bellsouth.net](mailto:edpittman26@bellsouth.net)

Cc: [legal@eastpointcity.org](mailto:legal@eastpointcity.org)

Thu, Sep 3, 2020 at 10:51 AM

Good Day Earnestine Pittman,

We are in receipt of your Open Records Request received on 8/27/2020 at 12:17:05 pm regarding the amount of the request of the line item withdrawal of non-restricted funds in the Non-Departmental Budget for Council Events for the Wednesday Wind Down Covid-19 Heroes Fund Raising Event on August 19, 2020, and the invoices for all services/supplies paid for with money from the account and Event identified above.

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The available information you requested is attached at no charge. It consists of nine (9) pages.

If you need further assistance, please call me at 404.270.7090.

Have a great day!

Keshia McCullough, City Clerk

**#2**

Good Day Earnestine Pittman,

We are in receipt of your Open Records Request received on 8/29/2019 at 1:05:57 pm regarding copies of all permits provided to all of the food and beverage trucks at the East Point Wednesday Wind Down on August 28, 2019, and the number of police officers providing security for the event.

Per the Economic Development Department, they do not issue food and beverage truck permits for the Wednesday Wind Down event. Per O.C.G.A. § 50-18-71(d), no public officer or agency shall be required to prepare new reports, summaries, or compilations not in existence at the time of the request.

There were 37 police officers provided at the event.

If you have any questions, please call the Economic Development Department at 404.270.7

Have a great day!

Keshia McCullough, City Clerk

**#3**

**Keshia McCullough (East Point, GA) <eastpointga@justfoia.com>**

To: edpittman26@bellsouth.net

Cc: legal@eastpointcity.org

Thu, Aug 20, 2020 at 10:15 AM

Good Day Earnestine Pittman,

We are in receipt of your Open Records Request received on 8/17/2020 at 8:11:39 am regarding the following:

1) Copies of all requests for City equipment and staff concerning the Wednesday Wind Down Benefit scheduled for Wednesday, August 19, 2020 in East Point.

2) Copies of all financial transactions, agreements/contracts with Atlanta NAACP or any non-profit concerning entertainment for the Wednesday Wind Down Benefit scheduled for Wednesday, August 19, 2020.

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3) Copy of any application and permit for the Wednesday Wind Down Benefit scheduled for Wednesday, August 19, 2020.

4) Copies of all financial receipts and credit card usage of CM Sharon Shropshire for July 1st - August 16th, 2020.

Per the City Clerk Department, there are no requests for city equipment concerning the Wednesday Wind Down Benefit, no financial transactions, agreements or contracts with the NAACP or any non-profit concerning the entertainment for the Wednesday Wind Down Benefit, and there is no application or permit for the Wednesday Wind Down Benefit. Per O.C.G.A. § 50-18-71(d), no public officer or agency shall be required to prepare new reports, summaries, or compilations not in existence at the time of the request.

The available information you requested is attached at no charge. It consists of eleven (11) pages.

If you need further assistance, please call me at 404.270.7090.

Have a great day!

Keshia McCullough, City Clerk

See attachment A.

#4

Keshia McCullough (East Point, GA) <eastpointga@justfoia.com>

To: edpittman26@bellsouth.net

Cc: legal@eastpointcity.org

Wed, Aug 12, 2020 at 3:07 PM

Good Day Earnestine D. Pittman,

We are in receipt of your Open Records Request received on 8/10/2020 at 10:56:50 am regarding copies of all contracts/agreements for Silk, Melvin Riley & Ready for the World, Regina Bell and Soul Cartel for the Wednesday Wind Down Feed the Heroes Benefit on Wednesday, August 19, 2020 as well as the copy of the minutes where Mayor and Council voted for the benefit.

There are no contracts or agreements for Silk, Melvin Riley & Ready for the World, Regina Bell or Soul Cartel. Per O.C.G.A. § 50-18-71(d), no public officer or agency shall be required to prepare new reports, summaries, or compilations not in existence at the time of the request.

The minutes from the June 1, 2020 Council Meeting where the FY21 Budget was approved is attached at no charge. It consists of seven (7) pages.

If you need further assistance, please call me at 404.270.7090.

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Have a great day!

Keshia McCullough, City Clerk

#5

- **Cathrene Hardy (East Point, GA)** <eastpointga@justfoia.com>
- To: edpittman26@bellsouth.net
- Cc: legal@eastpointcity.org, kmccullough@eastpointcity.org
- Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 5:18 PM
- 
- Good Day Earnestine Pittman,
- 
- We are in receipt of your Open Records Request received on 7/29/2021 at 12:00:00 am regarding copies of all permits and fee charges for Food Trucks as well as Beer, Wine & Margaritas as it relates to the July 28, 2021 Wednesday Wind Down. You also requested copies of all invoices for the entertainers, overtime for employees that provided services, and all costs for equipment and outside personnel.
- Per the Finance Department, the amount of overtime for public safety employees, public service employees and any other employees who provided services for the Wednesday Wind Down event is not separated based upon a specific event. It is merely coded as overtime. The City is unable to provide the amount of overtime for specific ev
- Your requested information is available and ready for pickup. As authorized by Code Section 50-18-71, copies are .10¢ per page. You will also be charged an administrative fee for any research time beyond 15 minutes. Fees for your request are as follows:
- Total Amount Owed for 1.40 pages @ .10¢ each \$1.40
- We **DO NOT** accept personal checks. Please make payment payable to **The City of East Point** and mail payment to:
  - The City of East Point
  - **Attn: City Clerk's Office**
  - 2757 East Point Street
  - East Point, GA 30344
- Upon receipt of payment, your documents will be placed in the mail to you. If you would like to pay for and pick up your documents in person, please email me at chardy@eastpointcity.org or call 404.270.7087 to schedule your appointment to come in. Be advised that face masks are required to enter the building.
- Thank you in advance.
- Cathrene Hardy, Deputy City Clerk

See Attachments. C. D.

#6

**Cathrene Hardy (East Point, GA)** <eastpointga@justfoia.com>

To: edpittman26@bellsouth.net

Cc: legal@eastpointcity.org

Fri, Jul 23, 2021 at 12:46 PM

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Good Day Earnestine Pittman,

As more clarification for Item No. 3 of your request, the amount of overtime for public safety employees, public service employees and any other employees who provided

services for the June 23, 2021 Wednesday Wind Down event is not separated based upon a specific event. It is merely coded as overtime. The City is unable to provide the amount of overtime for specific events.

Have a great day!

Cathrene Hardy, Deputy City Clerk

**See Attachments E. F.**

**#7**

**Cathrene Hardy (East Point, GA)** <eastpointga@justfoia.com>

To: edpittman26@bellsouth.net

Cc: legal@eastpointcity.org, kmccullough@eastpointcity.org

Mon, Jul 19, 2021 at 6:41 PM

Good Day Earnestine

We are in receipt of your Open Records Request received on 6/24/2021 at 12:00:00 am regarding Wednesday Wind Down, June 23, 2021 as it relates to permits and fee charges for Food Trucks as well as Beer, Wine & Margaritas. You also requested invoices for the entertainers, overtime for employees that provided services to the equipment and all costs for equipment and outside personnel.

Your information as it relates to invoices as well as permits and fees is attached at no charge. It consists of (6) pages. Please allow an additional (3) business days for the amount of overtime spent on employees.

Thanks,

Cathrene Hardy, Deputy City Clerk

**See Attachment G. H.**

**#8**

**From:** "Cathrene Hardy (East Point, GA)" <EastPointGA@justfoia.com>

**To:** "nb6489@yahoo.com" <nb6489@yahoo.com>

**Cc:** "legal@eastpointcity.org" <legal@eastpointcity.org>, "kmccullough@eastpointcity.org" <kmccullough@eastpointcity.org>

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**Sent:** Tue, Aug 23, 2022 at 4:43 PM

**Subject:** ORR-1840-2022

Good Day Napoleon M Black,

Our office is in receipt of your open records request received on 8/18/2022 at 11:05:01 pm regarding copies of all executed agreements/contracts between the city and each of the following performers/artist for the August 25, 2021 Wednesday Wind Down: Angie Stone, Freddie Jackson, Joyce Irby and Klymaxx, Shirley Murdock, and The Soul Cartel Band.

Please be advised there are no contracts/agreements on file. Per § 50-18-71(d), no public officer or agency shall be required to prepare new reports, summaries, or compilations not in existence at the time of the request.

Have a great day!

Cathrene Hardy, Deputy City Clerk

#9

**From:** "Cathrene Hardy (East Point, GA)" <EastPointGA@justfoia.com>

**To:** "nb6489@yahoo.com" <nb6489@yahoo.com>

**Cc:** "legal@eastpointcity.org" <legal@eastpointcity.org>, "kmccullough@eastpointcity.org" <kmccullough@eastpointcity.org>

**Sent:** Fri, Aug 19, 2022 at 8:54 A

Good Day Napoleon M Black,

Our office is in receipt of your open records request received on 8/18/2022 at 10:52:40 pm regarding copies of all executed agreements/contracts between the city and each the the following performers/artist for the July 28, 2021 Wednesday Wind Down: Kilo Ali, Goodie Mob, Pastor Troy and Youngbloodz.

Please be advised there are no contracts on file for the July 28, 2021 Wednesday Wind Down performers/artist: Kilo Ali, Goodie Mob, Pastor Troy and Youngbloodz. Per § 50-18-71(d), no public officer or agency shall be required to prepare new reports, summaries, or compilations not in existence at the time of the request.

Have a great day!

Cathrene Hardy, Deputy City Clerk

#10

**From:** "Cathrene Hardy (East Point, GA)" <EastPointGA@justfoia.com>

**To:** "nb6489@yahoo.com" <nb6489@yahoo.com>

**Cc:** "legal@eastpointcity.org" <legal@eastpointcity.org>, "kmccullough@eastpointcity.org" <kmccullough@eastpointcity.org>

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Sent: Fri, Aug 19, 2022 at 8:49 AM

Subject: ORR-1836-2022

Good Day Napoleon M Black,

Our office is in receipt of your open records request received on 8/18/2022 at 10:51:04 pm regarding copies of all executed agreements/contracts between the city and each of the following performers/artist for the May 25,2022 Wednesday Wind Down: Lyfe Jennings, Bobby V, Jacquees, The Soul Cartel Band, and The Big Tigger Morning Show.

Please be advised there are no contracts on file for the May 25,2022 Wednesday Wind Down performers/artist: Lyfe Jennings, Bobby V, Jacquees, The Soul Cartel Band, and The Big Tigger Morning Show. Per § 50-18-71(d), no public officer or agency shall be required to prepare new reports, summaries, or compilations not in existence at the time of the request.

Have a great day!

Cathrene Hardy, Deputy City Clerk

#11

**Cathrene Hardy (East Point, GA)** <eastpointga@justfoia.com>

To: edpittman26@bellsouth.net

Cc: legal@eastpointcity.org, kmccullough@eastpointcity.org

Thu, May 12 at 12:34 PM

Good Day Earnestine Pittman,

Our office is in receipt of your open records request received on 5/12/2022 at 7:41:56 am regarding a copy of all contracts/agreements and repeating vendors invoices signed by or approved by Ms. Rodgers and copies of contracts/agreements repeating vendors invoices signed by or approved by Ms. Rodgers for JUNETEETH CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM for 2020 to Present date.

Per the Economic Development Department, in regards to the Wednesday Wind Down events from 2019 to 2022, there are no contracts/agreements and repeating vendors invoices signed by or approved by Ms. Rodgers. In regards to the Juneteenth Celebration of Freedom for 2020 to present date, there are no copies of contracts/agreements repeating vendors invoices signed by or approved by Ms. Rodgers.

Per § 50-18-71(d), no public officer or agency shall be required to prepare new reports, summaries, or compilations not in existence at the time of the request.

Have a great day!

Cathrene Hardy, Deputy City Clerk



#12

Cathrene Hardy (East Point, GA) <eastpointga@justfoia.com>

To: edpittman26@bellsouth.net

Cc: legal@eastpointcity.org, kmccullough@eastpointcity.org

Thu, Apr 28 at 5:04 PM

Good Day Earnestine Pittman,

We are in receipt of your Open Records Request received on 4/25/2022 at 2:12:35 pm regarding the following information concerning JACQUEES' AGREEMENT TO PERFORM AT WEDNESDAY WIND DOWN (Event) on MAY 25, 2022:

- 1) Copies of all correspondence concerning the terms of JACUQUEES' agreement to perform at this Event, and any other entertainers.
- 2) The Department and contact person responsible for signing all financial arrangements for this Event to include in-kind donations; overtime pay; security; rental props, transportation; lodging; sound equipment and rehearsals; food and beverages; invitations; and use of City property.
- 3) Copy of the Minutes with the total Budget voted for this Event.
- 4) Copies of all documents from the Procurement and Purchasing Department for this Event.

With regard to Items 1, 2, & 4, there are no responsive documents to your request. Please view the attached minutes with regard to Item No. 3 of your request.

Have a great day!

Cathrene Hardy, Deputy City Clerk

You have read twelve Open Records Responses and they all say the same thing, the **Mayor and Council, City Manager and Finance Director have failed the City and the Residents in protecting the City Finances by violating the City Charter, Ordinances and Policies. Now, what are YOU going to do about it? Facebook posting, and Twitter tweets is not going to get the job done. Where are all the Former and Future Candidates for Seats on the Council? Where are the Former Elected Officials? I am doing my part, when are the rest of you going to do yours?**

**The other six items will be address in individual Email Newsletters.**