



VOICE FOR THE PEOPLE

Knowledge is Power; and Elections have Consequences!

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FINAL PROPOSED FY 24 BUDGET REVIEW # 5 E

THE CASE FOR THE GOVERNOR TO APPOINT AN ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE CITY OF EAST POINT CITY GOVERNMENT

The Proposed FY 24 Budget provides ample evidence that the Mayor and Council of the City of East Point are incapable of governing the City. The widespread corruption, and the systematic conspiracy of the Mayor and Council Members making deals outside of Council Meetings along with the support of City Managers and City Attorneys have left the Residents and Employees at the mercy of power hungry, and greedy elected and appointed officials with no checks or balances to protect the financial and physical resources of the City. No single Resident or group of Residents have the right to overthrow the will of the VOTERS without just cause. This Mayor and Council have provided the Residents with ample evidence that they are unfit to govern our City.

Let's begin with the Mayor. Mayor Holiday Ingraham has proven that she is more interested in changing our COUNCIL-MANAGER FORM of Government into a STRONG MAYOR form of government by her following actions:

- 1) Increasing her salary without a Vote of Council and without following the rules of the State in a public Council Meeting.
- 2) Increasing her staff with a full-time parttime position without a Vote of Council creating the position, duties, and responsibilities in a public Council Meeting.
- 3) Increasing her staff with an Intern position without a Vote of Council creating the position, duties, and responsibilities in a public Council Meeting.
- 4) Creating and funding categories in the Mayor's Budget that has absolutely nothing to do with her carrying out her PARTTIME DUTIES AS MAYOR, and everything to do with providing her with thousands of dollars to spend without any accountability from the EIGHT Council Members, and the two people who are responsible for the signing checks- the City Manager and Finance Director.
- 5) Creating the Agreement between the City and the Partnership for Southern Equity where the City Manager became the City Representative who approved the invoices and then signed the checks for the payments. The Mayor "managed" the operation of the Agreement out of her Office which is a direct violation of the Charter.
- 6) In this Proposed FY 24 Budget, the Mayor and City Manager have conspired to "CREATE" an "Office of Equity, Inclusion, and Empowerment" with \$1 million from federal funds. Open records requests, and the Proposed FY Budget show the following:
 - a) The "Office of Equity, Inclusion, and Empowerment" has not been "Created" by a Vote of Council in a public Council Meeting stating the duties, and responsibilities of the "Office".

- b) However, the City Manager “CREATED” a “DIVISION” in his Office for two Employees that he hired without posting any position for either employee at salaries above \$65,000 each without a Vote of Council “creating” the positions, duties and responsibilities or salaries approval in a public Council Meeting.
 - c) Two additional Employee positions have been added to the “OFFICE” again without any Vote of the Council in a public Council Meeting.
 - d) The “Office” is also listed as a Department in the Budget with no Vote of Council in a public Council Meeting creating it.
- 7) The Mayor is the actual person who will be “Managing” this “Office” in her “Office”.

The Mayor is no fool when it comes to keeping her distance from documents that would hold her accountable for many of the unlawful and criminal activities that are going on in the City. Check this out:

- 1) Wednesday Wind Down Concerts are widely associated with CM Sharon Shropshire. Nowhere is the Mayor’s signature on any invoices, contracts, or agreements. NO Entertainer is going to agree to perform without a Written Contract/Agreement. They exist but are not on file in the City that can be accessed through Open Record Requests. The person who signed those contracts/agreements are in big trouble because she is PERSONALLY libel for providing the funding as well as spending City funds without “Proper Authorization” meaning a Vote of Council in a public Council Meeting.
- 2) The other “Council Members’ Pet Projects” are also free of the Mayor’s signatures when it comes to expenditures. They are all in the same boat as CM Shropshire.

The Mayor, City Managers, and City Attorneys went too far when they “CREATED” the “EXECUTIVE” to move funds around. Each one of them will have to show how they did not conspire to “CREATE” an EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT to spend money outside of their legitimate designated Budgets in keeping with the State’s Accounting Practices.

It should be crystal clear to any objective minded person how the Mayor, Council Members, City Managers, and City Attorneys have conspired to spend public funds for their own greed and without accountability. The few examples of the corruption that has and continue to exist in our City is not slowing down but accelerating. We now have:

- 1) Elected officials hiring friends, children of friends, sorority sisters outside of East Point without having to go through legal proceedings.
- 2) Elected officials using public funds to buy their personal office supplies.
- 3) Elected officials subsidizing their personal income with City funds.
- 4) Elected officials using City Employees and City resources to aid in their implementing the outcomes of their Pet Projects.
- 5) Elected officials participating in a money shell game of making a “CASH” donation of \$30,000 to the Sickie Cell Foundation of Georgia for a 5K Race, then the Sickie Cell Foundation of Georgia turning around and writing a “CHECK” for \$30,000 back to East Point as a Wednesday Wind Down Sponsor.

I know that I have provided more than enough information and documentation in Email Newsletters and posts on my website to show that our Mayor and Council are corrupt and are no longer able to govern our City. I also know that the majority of the Residents who have taken the time to research what is happening in East Point can no longer deny or dispute what I have written. I am not posting anymore documents, however I will provide documentation for an outside entity to investigate the Mayor and Council.

The courts would take too long to curtail or stop the corruption by our Mayor and Council and some of our Employees. The only way for the City to get rid of the deep rooted corruption is to change our entire Mayor and Council. The City still has to function while any investigation takes place. That is why, I am asking the Residents to petition Gov. Kemp to look into providing the City with an Administrator while the Mayor and Council Members are investigated for criminal wrongdoing. If there are those of you who want to do something the time is NOW.