

[Robin Farris](#) (Thu, 24 Sep 2020 at 12:59 PM)

To: "PDC Support" <cdc@cdc.wa.gov>

Mx. Blackhorn,

I have searched the website and couldn't find a place to respond to the alleged violation. I hope the below comments satisfy a response for your records. If not, I am happy to resubmit in a more appropriate manner.

Sincerely, Robin

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In response to: Farris, Robin: Alleged violation of RCW 42.17A.555 for misuse of City Council Meeting to support or oppose election campaigns (EY 20; Aug 20)

During the this meeting, I did announce that the flyers stating taxes have gone up were categorically wrong. I remember explicitly stating these comments was not about any candidate, rather it was a PAC. No names of candidates or the PAC were included in my remarks. Unlike Mr. Chrchman, most citizens do not follow council or council races closely enough to know who is running after they send their ballot into the Auditors office. My opinion is based on doorbelling thousands of doors. However, they will remember taxes going up. This is a concern for me as a large number of my constituency are senior citizens and we are in a 100-year pandemic event. I felt ethically bound to put out this information based on my knowledge of my constituents.

Mr. Churchman is correct, I went on longer than I should have and I am not a great speaker. Based on my military background and speaking challenges, I speak very directly. For that I apologize.

The parliamentarian for our meetings is the City Attorney. The City Attorney did not interrupt me, nor did any of the fellow councilmembers call a point of order, which they would not hesitate to do. However, following my statements, Mayor Julie Door asked the City Attorney to provide information regarding speaking out about political matters during council meetings. While I stand by my comments, the City Attorney provided guidance on more appropriate ways of correcting the record that do not have the appearance of political speak. I have taken this approach since that time and will continue that approach from now on.

It is not, nor ever will be my intention to violate the ethics of my office. My comments were rough and could have been stated more appropriately. I recinded any public support for Julie Door the day after this meeting because this issue is bigger than a campaign.

I fully accept responsibility for my actions. The intent of my comments were to reassure my constituent, NOT to endorse or oppose any candidate.