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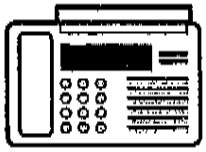

Attn: Ross Fischer

Fax: (877) 437-5755

From: Larry Romero

Re:

Date: 3/15/16

Number of Pages: 4

Comments:

ANSWERS TO ETHICS REVIEW COMMISSION

1. RFQ for Financial Advisor
   a. To the best of my recollection, no.
   b. A few months after being elected in 2013, I was given a briefing by Joyce Wilson and Carmen Arrieta about the City's finances. I read through the documents and wondered why the second largest financial firm in Texas was not doing any of the City's business. That is when I called Noe Hinojosa and asked him why his firm did not even do at least some of the underwriting business for the City. He told me that they did not receive a positive response from the City. I asked him to let me know when he would be in El Paso again. A few weeks later, he gave me a date and I asked the City Manager if she had time on her calendar to meet with Mr. Hinojosa. She did meet with him and me and the entire conversation was a meeting so they could get to know each other.
   c. Yes. Because of the ballpark financing problems, I felt that the majority of Council was not satisfied with the current Financial Advisor.
   d. No.
   e. Again, it was my belief that the majority of Council was not satisfied.
   f. It was a recommendation to make the change.
   g. No.
   h. I was made aware of the possible change during a City Council meeting by Dr. Sutter. Not sure of the date.
      1. Cause
      2. Ballpark financing deal and past involvement in the corruption scandal by one of its employees
      3. When it was reported by the press.
   i. No.
   j. I don't know.
   k. To the best of my recollection, no.
   l. Not reasonable.
   m. Not reasonable.
   n. Not reasonable.
   o. Not reasonable.
   p. Not reasonable.
   q. Not reasonable.
   r. No.

s. No.

t. No.

2. Resurfacing Streets in District Two

a. When the City Manager first came on board with the City, he toured each council member's district. During the tour with me, I told him how the previous City Manager had made the commitment to listen to our concerns and make modifications to the street plan. He said he would listen to our concerns and make adjustments based on our input.

b. The changes that were made in my district were done because of letters, emails, and personal comments from constituents **and from personal visits** to the requested sites.

c. My comments were given to the staff who went on the site visits with me.

d. No.

e. Because it had never been done in the two plus years that I was on City Council.

f. Only staff.

g. To the best of my recollection, no.

h. Yes.

i. Other changes were made by other district representatives.

k. Not reasonable.

l. Not reasonable.

m. No basis.

n. No basis.

o. Yes. The Capital Improvement Program was for the resurfacing and reconstruction of the City's streets, alleys, and rights of way.

3. Installation of the Stanton Street Speed Cushions

a. The middle of December 2015, I was contacted by Frank Rimkus, on behalf of Cathedral, regarding the installation of speed bumps.

b. On Christmas Eve of 2015, I sent an email to Rep. Niland about the request. My comment in that email was we could talk about it later. After the first of the year, I did talk to her and relayed the request from Cathedral.

c. see item b. above

d. I was contacted by the City Manager who let me know that the speed cushions had been installed on Stanton street. I answered his email with an email of my own thanking him for the work he had done.

e. No.

f. No.

g. I don't know.

h. No.

i. No.

j. When it was first reported in the press. No actions.

k. No.

l. No one.

m. No action.

n. I don't know.

o. I did not request the installation because it was not in my district.

p. Again, I did not request the installation.

Larry E. Romero