



July 1, 2020

Mayor Holladay,

The City Commission is the governing body of the City of Oregon City, and the proper functioning of this body is critical for the City to achieve its goals and make the City a better place to live for all. The City Commissioners, including the Mayor of Oregon City, are civic leaders who must remain above reproach and avoid injuring the good name of the City, disturbing its well-being, and hampering its work. Mayor Holladay, it is apparent to this Commission that you have taken the following actions that are contrary to the interests of the proper functioning of the City Commission and bring the name of the City into public reproach:

- At the June 3, 2020 City Commission meeting, you violated the City's rules of procedure by directing the Audio Visual Technician to immediately stop the meeting audio and video feed when you adjourned the Commission meeting; an apparent planned effort on your part to exclude additional comments to be made by Commissioners on the murder of George Floyd, a matter of local, state and national importance, and by refusing to recognize Commissioners entitled to the floor consistent with the adopted Commission agenda.
- You have made comments on social media and other outlets and you took actions, including meeting with mayors throughout the region, promoting the re-opening of Oregon City in defiance of the emergency orders of the state of Oregon in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Your actions resulted in a letter from the Oregon Attorney General reminding you of the need for the state's response to protect its citizens and the authority to do so. Your actions led to concern and confusion in the community, for which the City Commission held an emergency meeting to clarify that citizens and businesses should not violate the Governor's executive orders. Your actions would have potentially endangered the lives of our citizens and potentially exposed businesses that followed your recommendations to criminal and civil penalties.
- You have made comments on social media regarding the death of Black citizens in police encounters and about the subject of racial injustice, downplaying the significance of the events and the concerns about racial injustice. You were the only mayor in the region who refused to sign the June 4, 2020 letter from the Metropolitan Mayors Consortium regarding the death of George Floyd. The letter from the Consortium, signed by the region's 25 other mayors included an acknowledgement that no community is immune to systemic and historic patterns of racial injustice. The letter committed the cities to listening and advancing

meaningful reforms and that supported the right of citizens to peacefully protest. These actions have cast a shadow on the good name of the City of Oregon City.

- You have solicited money from local businesses for a fireworks show in Oregon City that would be contrary to the state emergency orders related to COVID-19 with complete disregard to the Commission's actions at the previous emergency meeting where you agreed to uphold the Governor's Stay Home Save Lives Executive Order. Additionally, you may have violated Oregon ethics law and criminal statutes related to official misconduct with your decision to unilaterally collect private funds for a fireworks show without the knowledge or consent of the Commission, knowing that a fireworks show would have potentially risked the health and safety of our community.

In response to the concerns that the Commission have about your actions, the City Manager has been authorized by this Commission to hire an outside firm to conduct an investigation into the allegations regarding your actions related to:

- a. Promoting the re-opening of Oregon City in defiance of the emergency orders of the state of Oregon, and
- b. Raising funds to stage a fireworks event in defiance of the emergency orders of the state of Oregon without the consent or participation of the rest of the Commission.

The results of this investigation shall be brought back to the City Commission and, upon request, be made available to outside agencies for potential further action.

Based on your actions as outlined above, and as discussed and voted on by the Oregon City Commission on June 17, 2020, you are hereby censured by the City Commission of Oregon City for taking actions that injured the good name of the City of Oregon City, disturbed its well-being, and hampered its work.



Rachel Lyles Smith
Commission President



Denyse C. McGriff
Commissioner



Frank O'Donnell
Commissioner



Rocky Smith, Jr.
Commissioner