

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Public Comment Items 5, 6, 12, 22, Tuesday, January 16, 2024
Date: Friday, January 12, 2024 9:35:00 AM

From: qw <channelfrequency@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 9:31 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
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Good Evening City Council,

Ben Pickens here, longtime Huntington Beach, California, United States, resident & citizen

Item 5 - To vouch for, the Huntington Beach Interfaith Council has walked the line & I'd like to see them able to be invited to give invocation at the city council at their free will. Everyone, believe it or not, has different religious & philosophical beliefs that they manage to not change the 1st amendment with. This quasi-law is an unconstitutional show of force & is

preferentially not in accordance with not respecting or not prohibiting in the 1st amendment by limiting the prayer to be from a designated-ly preferred religious leader or a police chaplain only from this city.

Item 6 - CITY MANAGER'S REPORT; I support finding a qualified city manager who has the time & resources to thoroughly manage the city in the city manager employment. There are plenty of qualified & unbiased city manager recruits in the college system who have studied in hopes of this rewarding job position. Not having a dedicated city manager to manage the city, its finances & correlating to all standard procedures is unacceptable. The City of Denver has executive directors & the City of San Francisco has a city administrator & both do their jobs well.

What you might not be thinking about is that folks are unwilling to participate in an array of extremely important matters in a city council with a mayor who demonstrates bad leadership. A simple, important suggestion I can provide is a math, science & intergalactic technology convention in Huntington Beach & a large, state of the art convention hall.

Item 12 - Community & Library Services - Thus far, I'm impressed with the new math building design at Golden West College & a aforementioned design compared to other designs & I applaud the city council efforts to likewise find a list of qualified professionals for the design review board of major projects.

The city has a history of having some very bad math & chemistry teachers who were

rebuked for their lack of education & effort & these schools also shut down undoubtedly because of this. An identifiable system of unqualified teachers is a coercion of developing students. This shouldn't be a thing & ergo I have a longtime suggestion of reforming the school board. I don't think the school board meetings have a history of doing their jobs correctly for students.

Item 22 - I support Item 22 Expedited Plan Check for Development - Not being able to clearly apply for commercial business development with the City of Huntington Beach & a commercial license with the county, all the way in downtown Santa Ana, in a timely fashion is a major problem that I've experienced myself & this is unacceptable for the professional business community. Economic development is a

sound initiative. Interesting fact; New York City also features Gordon Ramsay's Fish & Chips, Zazzy's Pizza, Imperial Steakhouse, Gallagher's Steakhouse, Crab House, The Jolly Goat Coffee Bar, 99 Flavor Taste, Deli 52 & a very extensive undergarment & shoe selection. I'd like to see these types of establishments in uptown Huntington Beach & I think the very limited commercial selection in uptown Huntington Beach is still not up to par & not fair to the good legacy of the city.

Not getting involved in the opinions of really bad music artists, Heil Avenue is divisively reminiscent of the evil "heil Hitler" phrase & living in hell. I humbly suggest renaming Heil Avenue to something like Candy or Süßigkeiten Avenue to stop the confusion. I'd also like to suggest a statue of Harrison

Ford & other iconic folks in this fine city.

And not getting involved in any political connotations in the city council, I want to clearly thank Councilman Kalmick & Councilwoman Moser for their scrupulous leadership & decision making in this city.

Standing up to Putin & other totalitarians, dictators & tyrants -

"Hit hard, hit fast and hit often." ~ Admiral William Halsey

"The hard part about playing chicken is knowing when to flinch." ~ Captain Bart Mancuso USS Dallas, The Hunt for Red October

From Merriam-Webster Dictionary

Q-ship: an armed ship disguised as a merchant or fishing ship to decoy enemy submarines into gun range

Sometimes folks have to sit in the corner but life goes on.

“You are an aperture through which the universe is looking at and exploring itself.”

~ Alan Watts

“*Only if you reject all the other paths can you discover your own path.”

~ U.G. Krishnamurti, Mind Is a Myth

"The imagination is the golden pathway to everywhere." ~ Terence McKenna

Thank you & Sincerely ~ Ben Pickens