

Zachary Robinson

From: Jeff Gaston <jgaston@bluffdale.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 6:27 PM
To: Zachary Robinson
Subject: Fw: Time to stand.

Jeff Gaston
Councilman



From: Todd Sheeran <tsheeran@bluffdale.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 1:01 PM
To: Jeff Gaston <jgaston@bluffdale.com>
Subject: FW: Time to stand.

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From: BluffdaleCitizensForCivility . <bluffdalecitizensforcivility@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 2:32 PM
To: Derk Timothy <dtimothy@bluffdale.com>; Dave Kallas <dkallas@bluffdale.com>; Wendy Aston <waston@bluffdale.com>; Mark Hales <mhales@bluffdale.com>; Traci Crockett <tracroc@bluffdale.com>; Mark Reid <mreid@bluffdale.com>; Todd Sheeran <tsheeran@bluffdale.com>
Subject: Time to stand.

Mayor Timothy and City Council members,

I, like many members of our city, am dismayed at the outrageous display put on during the last city council meeting by Councilman Jeff Gaston. Since joining the city council, Jeff has attempted to take the lead and assume the primary position of leadership in every scenario. Even from his very first council meeting, where he jumped out and welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming, as if it were his meeting to lead.

Councilman Gaston has absolutely no sense of propriety when it comes to procedure and decorum. His every action is geared towards posturing and making himself look like the hero in every case. You have all seen it, and likely have grown tired of it. Any time that someone in the city has put up any resistance to ANYTHING he wants done (even the most simple of things), regardless of whether its the proper way to do things, he lashes out and forms a plan to try to have them eliminated. Every one of you has seen it multiple times.

Jeff Gaston is a man-child with massive insecurity issues. He attempts to cover up his lack of experience with attacks. He is Bluffdale's own little Donald Trump.

Now, whether or not you approved of Donald Trump and the job he did, the fact is that the man is a bully. And now our quaint little city of Bluffdale has its own bully to deal with.

In terms of behavior, Jeff Gaston needs to be reeled in, or he will make a mockery of our city. I have caught wind of many of the threats he has made toward several of you. Threats of lawsuits, threats of letters from employees, threats of losing your seat in the next election. These are classic bully methods, and you're being played like a harp if you buy into any of it.

We need strong leadership that isn't threatened by pathetic attempts to discredit those who stand in his way. I beg you: Stand up and be finished with this fool once and for all.

The success of a bully typically comes from the fact that a bully is willing to go farther than most normal, pleasant people. They are okay to make a scene where most are not. They are okay to make false accusations, where most people would not. Take for example Nancy Lord's and Mont Robbins' accusations during the last council meeting. They both accused City Council members as well as our state representative of corruption... over a 4 acre development! This type of behavior is unconscionable.

But decent people don't want to get into the dirt and I get it. The rest of you have families and lives to live and you don't need the drama. Unfortunately, Jeff Gaston will not change until he is forced to be accountable for his behavior.

Start small. Do not let any procedural process be broken. Run the city council meeting properly with no room for speaking out of turn. Do not stand by while Jeff speaks unilaterally for the city or makes offers on behalf of the city. Do not tolerate his public or private tantrums. Highlight his threats and report them to the city attorney. My guess is that with a little push back, he'll see that his methods will no longer be acceptable. If he doesn't get the hint, there is a group of us that are ready to move to the next phase. We will not stand by while this inexperienced newbie ruins the discourse in our city.

If Jeff decides to turn over a new leaf, then fine. We can return to civil discourse. To be clear, I will never judge a city official for their political leanings and votes. I truly believe that the rest of you vote your conscience and do the best you can with the information you have. What I'm talking about is composure and proper etiquette for civil discourse.

Please know that the majority of the city approves of the job you're doing, and appreciates the time you all invest to help run our city.

Sincerely,

