

## File a Formal Complaint - Elizabeth Lunsford

[Elunsford9](#) (Tue, 14 Nov at 10:10 AM) via Portal

Hello Public Disclosure Commission,

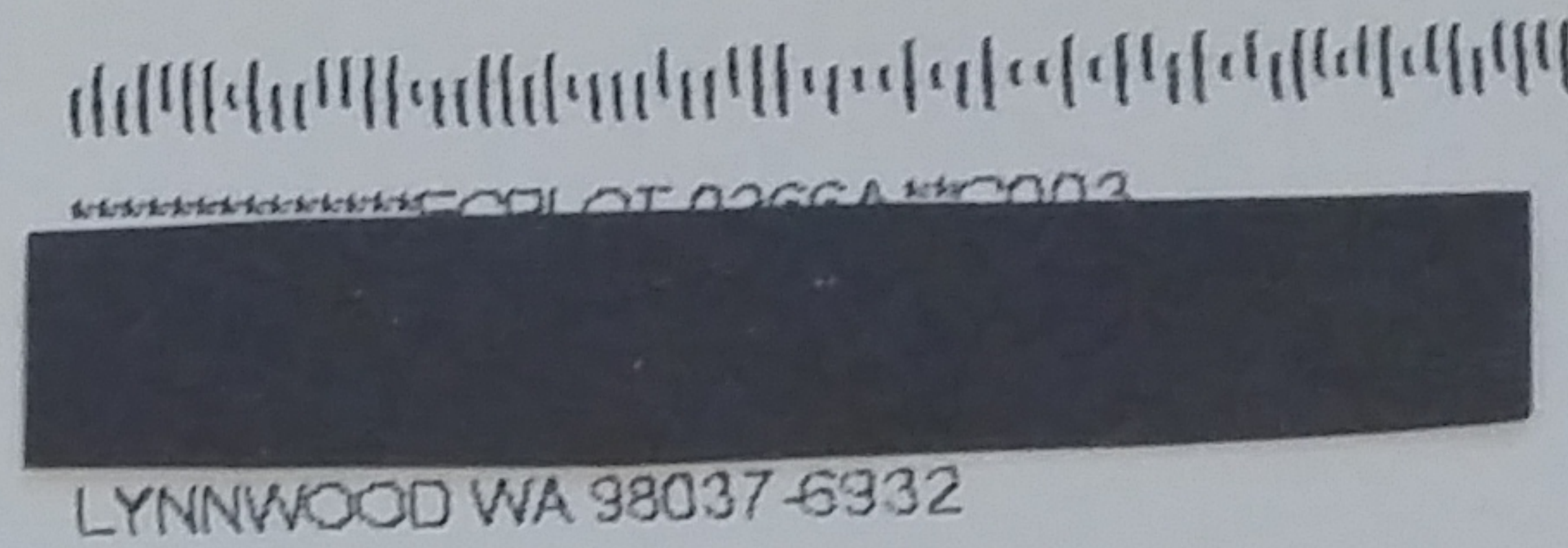
I am reporting a violation of RCW 42.17A.320 for failure to include sponsor ID on Council member George Hurst's campaign for Mayor for the November 7th election. In the last week of the election, I received a mailer for George Hurst which did not state a source id. The mailer did include a quote of State Senator of the 32nd District appearing to endorse George Hurst.

Also in the last week of the election, there was defamatory press release of Lynnwood News and Views. All the material appears to be printed by the same source. The source id for Lynnwood News and View is "Paid for by Ted Hikel, 3820 191st PL SW, Lynnwood, WA 98036". I request a case to investigate if the funding for George Hurst mailers were reported and if there was connection to the defamatory press release.

Thank you for your time,  
Elizabeth Lunsford.



# ELECT GEORGE HURST MAYOR



PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
KENT, WA  
Permit #71

"George Hurst represents transparency and accountability in governing the City of Lynnwood. He is a principled visionary and a conservative manager of the people's tax dollars."

Maralyn Chase, State Senator 32<sup>nd</sup> District

## PERSONAL & EDUCATION

- Married to my wife, Pam, for 42 years
- 4 kids, all graduates of Lynnwood High School
- Member Northlake Christian Church
- BA - History from University of Washington
- MA - US History from University of N. Carolina

## PUBLIC SERVICE

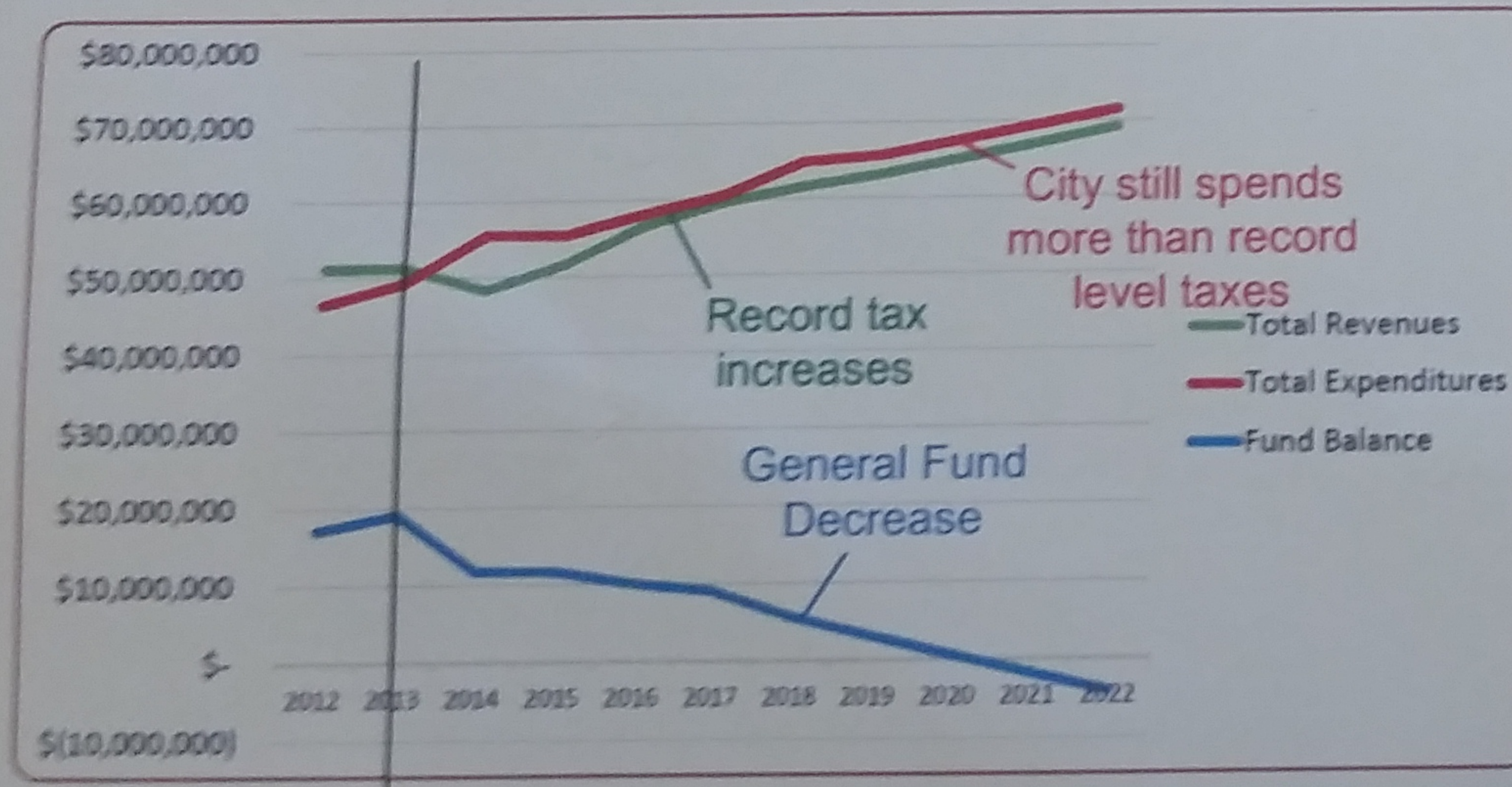
- Lynnwood City Council Member
- SnoCom 911 Board Member
- Vice-Chair Lynnwood Transportation and Traffic Task force
- Vice-Chair Lynnwood Planning Commission
- City of Lynnwood rep. to Community Transit Board

## ENDORSEMENTS

- Snohomish County Democrats
- Snohomish County - Camano Assoc. of Realtors
- Northwest Carpenters Union
- IBEW Union
- Brian Sullivan - Chair Snohomish County Council
- Maralyn Chase, State Senator 32<sup>nd</sup> District

## WHERE'S THE MONEY ???

City of Lynnwood General Fund Financial Forecast



2013 - Mayor Smith is elected

Source: City of Lynnwood 2017-18 Adopted Budget Book, page 2.13

This chart shows how the City General Fund will decrease from \$20 million to \$5million under the current administration's budget plan.

During the past 4 years residents have been burdened with 7 tax and fee increases and over \$6 million has been raided from reserve funds to balance budgets.

The Mayor has spent over \$500,000 on efficiency studies. But City government costs continue to increase. Is this being more efficient?

Elect George Hurst for Mayor on November 7th.

Where's the Money?!

Website: [Hurst4Lynnwood.com](http://Hurst4Lynnwood.com)

Email: [Hurst4Lynnwood@outlook.com](mailto:Hurst4Lynnwood@outlook.com)

Phone: 425-771-9064 Labor Donated



# The BIG Issue

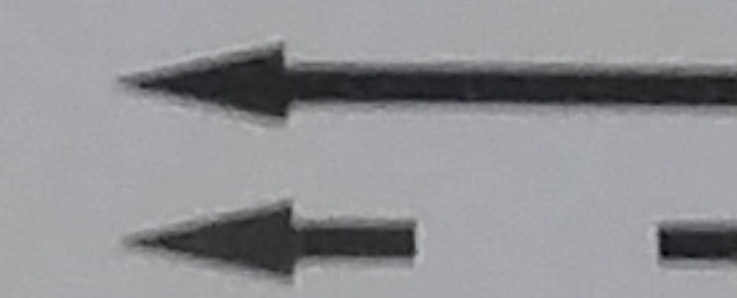
City of Lynnwood  
Mayor

4 Year Term

(VOTE FOR ONE)

George Hurst

Nicola Smith



## NICOLA VS REALITY & THE HURST SOLUTION

THE ISSUES	What Nicola <u>says</u> ...	The Reality...	Hurst Solution...
<b>Lynnwood's Budget</b>	Nicola says... "I have restored balance to Lynnwood's Budget "	\$6 million has been taken from the reserve funds to balance the Mayor's Budgets. Right now the City "Rainy Day" Fund has only enough money for 6 weeks of expenses. The City Financial Policy requires a reserve of 2 ½ months.	My budget will be balanced by making sure expenses do not exceed the revenues that come into the City. No more raiding reserves.
<b>Regional Fire Authority (RFA)</b>	Nicola says... "I am the Mayor of the RFA"	The RFA is an independent fire service with taxing authority, it has no Mayor. The RFA will impose a 2018 property tax in Lynnwood costing the average home owner \$645. This will be in addition to the City property tax of \$727 per home.	For 2 years the Mayor advocated for the formation of the RFA without any plan of tax relief for Lynnwood citizens. I will fight this double taxation as a current City Council member and as your new Mayor.
<b>Roads</b>	Nicola says... " I have built infrastructure that serves the needs of our growing community"	In 2016 a consultant hired by the City stated that \$37.5 million is needed to repair City roads. During the past 4 years the average funding for road overlay has only been enough to pave 1/3 of a mile per year.	I will stop the policy of throwing crumbs at road maintenance. Lack of funding has not preserved our neighborhood roads and sidewalks and certainly will not prepare the city for the traffic that will come with Light Rail.
<b>Leadership</b>	Nicola says... "I am the CEO of Lynnwood"	During her administration City Department Director salaries have increased by 19% and the average Director's salary is now \$166,223. The Mayor's administrative bloat has increased the Mayor's office budget from \$350,000 in 2013 to \$1.7 million.	The Mayor is elected by the citizens of Lynnwood and is supposed to administer the City for those citizens. I will be a Mayor for the people and not a big spending "CEO".



## Lynnwood Mayor Looses Fight to Keep Citizens in the Dark - Still Resisting

In her 2013 Mayoral campaign, Lynnwood Mayor Nicola Smith promised transparency to the public. However, her administration has been fighting in court to prevent Lynnwood citizens from seeing public records related to her administration. Concerned citizens requested information about her administrations meetings and other documents, which are public records and required to be available by state law. Smith's administration refused to make any documents about their activities available to citizens outside City Hall. The citizens had filed a formal public records request under the Freedom of Information Act. Rather than following the law, the Mayor chose to stone wall the requests and illegally withheld the public documents that showed what she was up to. Having no other recourse, the citizens seeking the information filed a law suit to force the Smith Administration to turn over the public documents.

Apparently, Smith was so concerned with anyone challenging her administration that she felt it was worth spending more than \$50,000 in tax payer's money in a vain effort to prevent their release. A protracted legal battle ended earlier this year when the Court of Appeals ruled in favor of Lynnwood citizens and ordered Mayor Smith and her administration to pay all costs and lawyer's fees for the plaintiff.

## LYNNWOOD NEWS & VIEWS Candidate Endorsements

**MAYOR - George Hurst**  
**COUNCIL POS. 1 - Van AuBuchon**  
**COUNCIL POS. 2 - Ian Cotton**  
**COUNCIL POS. 3 - Rosamaria Graziani**

## City Council Delays Tax Talks Until After November Elections

Lynnwood City Council President, Benjamin Goodwin, has used his authority to set the Council's meeting agenda to delay discussions over 2018 property tax rates until after the November 7th general election. With the passage of Proposition 1 on the August 1st primary ballot, Lynnwood tax payers will see a new line item on their property tax bill. The Regional Fire Authority (RFA) will add approximately \$650 to the property tax bill on the average Lynnwood home. This tax is in addition to the City's existing \$725 tax on the average Lynnwood home. Current City Council members George Hurst, Ian Cotton, and Shirley Sutton, have pledged to reduce the city's property tax by the same amount as the RFA tax so Lynnwood residents don't see a net tax increase. Council members Goodwin, Chris Boyer, Shannon Sessions, and Ruth Ross have made no such commitment. The same four Council members voted to make Goodwin Council President and voted for Mayor Nicola Smith's unbalanced budgets.

Goodwin's motive for delaying discussion of 2018 tax rates cannot be blamed on a busy schedule. The City Council normally schedules five meetings each month. Each meeting is scheduled to run three hours. Over the last four months, Goodwin has delayed not only property tax discussions but also critical budget issues. So much work has been postponed that meetings have averaged just over one and a half hours and five meetings have been cancelled all together. What seems obvious to Lynnwood News & Views is that Goodwin is postponing controversial discussions until after the November, 7th election.

Goodwin, Boyer, Sessions, and Ross hold a majority on the City Council when they vote as a block. Their majority make it possible that Lynnwood residents will see the largest property tax increase in city history. If the Council does nothing before April, 2018, that increase will happen. However, their four vote majority is in danger. Council member Roth Ross is up for re-election and Chris Boyer is retiring from the Council. Boyer has endorsed candidate Christine Frizzell, who, like Boyer, has not pledged to cut the city's property tax to match the RFA increase. Frizzell is running against Van AuBuchon and Ross is being challenged by Rosamaria Graziani. Both AuBuchon and Graziani have pledged to reduce the city's property tax to off set the RFA tax. If either or both AuBuchon and Graziani win their races Goodwin will have to work with a new majority on the Council that has pledged to cut city's property taxes.

## Council Candidate Confirms Corruption at City Hall

Many Lynnwood residents and contractors have reported long delays in obtaining building and construction permits through the City's Permitting Center. Representatives of Costco Inc. complained that the permitting process for their new warehouse near Alderwood Mall was the "most difficult" they have ever encountered. However, candidate for Lynnwood City Council Pos. 2, Shanon Tysland, confirmed stories of corruption in the City of Lynnwood's permitting process at a recent candidates forum.

While fielding a question about the slow processing times at the City's permitting center, Tysland detailed favorable treatment he was able to obtain by exploiting his personal friendship with Mayor Nicola Smith. Tysland, owner of a physical therapy and fitness business, converted the former Centers 3 Collision Center auto body repair facility at 4030 Alderwood Mall Blvd. into a fitness gym in 2014. Tysland recalled that his initial permit application received the typical slow service from the Lynnwood Permit Center. He went on to describe that a single phone call to his personal friend, Mayor Nicola Smith, was enough to get his permits expedited. Costco's experience makes it clear that prompt service is not available to even the largest permit applicants unless Mayor Smith personally intervenes. Such activities have forced City employees to further delay legitimate permit applications to provide preferential treatment for the Mayor's chosen few.

While the Mayor's corruption of the permitting process did not directly lead to financial gain, it has lead to a political favor. Tysland is a new comer to Lynnwood politics. Most first time candidates looking to win elective office will file for an open position without a defending incumbent when such an open seat exists. When Tysland filed to run for City Council he did not file for the open seat, Position 1, being vacated by Councilman Chris Boyer. Instead, Tysland filed to run against popular incumbent Councilman Ian Cotton for Position 2. Cotton is the only incumbent who has opposed the Mayor's spending increases and unbalanced budgets. He is also the only incumbent Council candidate not endorsed by Mayor Smith.

Council member Ian Cotton was present at the candidates forum when Tysland recounted his story of the Mayor's intervention in the permitting process. When asked for comment on Tysland's story, Cotton stated that he was appalled by the system of favors that Mayor Smith has created inside City Hall. But what shocked Cotton was the casual way that Tysland told the story, as if such corrupt favors were not only to be expected, but are actually something to brag about. Cotton told Lynnwood News & Views that he regards such back room favors as the kind of corruption that erodes public trust. He went on to say that he hopes to work to restore the public's trust and improve the permitting process for all applicants if he is re-elected.