

Amy Johnson

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of feby@qwestoffice.net
Sent: Tuesday, October 01, 2019 12:08 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Cheryl A Eby
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City	Salem
State	OR
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Message	This is a copy of a letter I sent to Cara Kaiser and am now passing on to you in the event she does not share it with you. Thank you for finally getting back to me. I was more than disappointed to find you voted in support of the 8% tax. So I'll ask you this question—just how long does the city think it can continue to raid the citizens' wallets until finally there is no more money to give, especially since it never seems to get to where it is allotted? The city has never made any attempt to cut anything in a truly meaningful way. Yes, I agree that fire and police are most needed, although the police do not do a good job at all. Too often we find them parked over in the state fair lot yakking. Not what we are paying them for, is it? We have a great fire department and they deserve to be funded fully. However, these items I list now need to be totally cut/eliminated. 1. The Senior Center. Why on earth is the city is paying for this entity is anyone's guess, but it needs to get out of it and let it go private. 2. Parks. Again, why does the city think it must provide parks? These, too, should be privatized. 3. Cut library days back to five permanently and hours. 4. Cut massively the budget for public works. I have been trying for years to get Peter Fernandez off his hands and get our sidewalks and roads repaired to no avail, even though he wrote us all a letter a few years back telling us they were doing a survey of sidewalks here and would be repairing those damaged. A few more years went by, and when I contacted him again was informed that the survey cost \$500,000 and there was no money left for repairs. And it remains so to this day. Considering what this man receives in salary and the water debacle last year, he should at least be fired. And since there is no money to do the work (supposedly) his department is supposed to be doing, there is certainly no reason to give them more. This department needs a massive employee cut since the few you see out are not doing anything except digging holes in the streets that they then fill back in after apparently doing nothing, or moving water meter boxes from parking strips to sidewalks. Didn't need moving; they just did. It's called make-work. And for this kind of work they send out a crew of six so that four of them can stand around while the other two dink around. Also, we are paying additional taxes on our utility bill for streetlights and sidewalks. Now the question, where is this money really going? And is the \$8 tax going to pick up the overage on building the police station we didn't need? Somehow I suspect it is. 5. Freeze employee wages for two years, and have them pick up more of their benefit payment. We are all having to take more responsibility for paying benefits (our family pays \$1400 a month out-of-pocket for insurance), and these people need to do the same. Many of us haven't had a pay raise for years, but city employees get theirs regularly. To say we are disappointed in the city council would be an understatement. You people seem to think we have vast resources to pay for every project you throw

	out there. It must stop, and stop now, and it's up to all of you to do the right thing for once. Start thinking about the people and not how to keep molly-coddling city workers. Cheryl A. Eby 1960 Garfield Street NE Salem, OR 97301
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