

No Standing News

Since we have no standing, we stand with those left standing

Volume I

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Re: "BUTZ PROPOSES FORMAL POLICIES FOR EMPLOYEE TRAVEL, VEHICLE USE" July 21, 1998

By Phil

Well. Well. Well. After all the huffing and puffing by city officials, their Chamber alter egos, reporters and others about how the citizens special audit was a big waste of money, city administrator John Butz wants the council to pass policies to stop the expense account and travel "bleeders" in city hall. Just what the audit directed.

If all employee fraud and high living are suddenly cut off, the savings derived should quickly exceed the cost of the audit! After all, in less than two years just one city employee helped himself to an extra \$25,743. The special audit cost far less than that. Reading the audit recommendations* tells you he wasn't the only one dipping into the tax pot. The August Council discussion and vote** on these policies should be very enlightening.

In their ire at having such elementary graft and their own careless stewardship exposed, some council persons have been screaming for as much "blood money" as possible from the bond posted by the citizens group to punish them for forcing the audit. Shame on the council. They should be giving them good citizen awards. No one looks more the fool

than someone who has a temper tantrum because they're caught with their pants down and forced to obey the very laws they swore their oath to uphold!

Notice how careful the newspaper was to avoid giving any credit to the "Negative Preservationist" group for bringing about a reform that should have been in place many, many years ago. Morrison just quietly called it "a petition audit" and didn't add the usual group condemnation.

*If you haven't gotten your free copy of "Unnecessary Special Audit" yet, the state will send one right to your door. Just send E-mail to: mkelly@mail.state.mo.us requesting a copy of Report No. 98-19.

** Council meeting is August 3 , 7:00 p.m. Go to the end of the second floor of city hall and join the audience. Soda machines handy. BYO popcorn.

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